

Universidad Autónoma de Madrid



Facultad de Psicología

Departamento de Psicología Biológica y de la Salud

Programa de Doctorado de Psicología Clínica y de la Salud

Mención Internacional

Evaluación de los aspectos psicopatológicos en pacientes oncológicos del Hospital

Jiménez Díaz de Madrid (HUJD)

MEMORIA PARA OPTAR AL GRADO DE DOCTOR

PRESENTADA POR

Daniel Díaz Frutos

07/02/2017

Directores Tesis Doctoral

Dr. Enrique Baca García

Dr. Jorge López Castroman

Dr. Jesús García-Foncillas López

AUTONOMOUS UNIVERSITY OF MADRID



School of Psychology

Department of Biological and Health Psychology

Clinical and Health Psychology Doctorate Program

International Mention

Psychopathological assessment of a ward of oncologic patients at Hospital Jimenez

Díaz, Madrid (UHJD)

DOCTORAL THESIS

Daniel Díaz Frutos

07/02/2017

Directors of the Doctoral Dissertation

Dr. Enrique Baca García

Dr. Jorge López Castroman

Dr. Jesús García-Foncillas López

AGRADECIMIENTOS

Quiero agradecer especialmente al Dr. Enrique Baca García por aceptarme como su doctorando y colaborador en las investigaciones y terapias con el Dr. Sánchez González. Lo que me ha permitido trabajar con su equipo para evaluar y ayudar a los pacientes del Hospital. Para mi es todo un privilegio el haber aprendido tanto del Dr. Baca.

Al Dr. Jesús García Foncillas, por su positiva disposición de colaborar, por tenerme bajo su tutela con el equipo de Oncología Médica y de Cuidados Paliativos, de permitirme exponer mis ideas en las reuniones de departamento y por darme acceso a todo el material académico posible.

Al Dr. Jorge López Castromán, este trabajo no hubiera sido posible sin su constante coordinación, intercambio de reflexiones y guía en los análisis estadísticos. Gracias por estar siempre dispuesto y motivarme.

Muchas gracias al total del personal médico y de enfermería de los servicios de Psiquiatría y Oncología Médica-Cuidados Paliativos del Hospital Jiménez Díaz que han hecho posible a través de su apoyo y buena labor profesional, el que esta tesis doctoral haya ocurrido. Al Dr. Ignacio Montorio por darme su apoyo durante estos años para poder desarrollar esta tesis y defenderla. Y a la Secretaría y compañeros de la Facultad que han facilitado todo este proceso

Finalmente, a mi familia Victoria, Pedro, Estefanía, Víctor, Mateo, Lucas y Didier, porque ellos son la gasolina, la maleta, los alimentos, los ojos, los oídos, el cerebro y el corazón de este viaje de muchos años... A mis mejores amigas Virginia, Alicia y Alba y a mi pareja Piem, que se han quedado a mi lado en las malas y peores.

Gracias de verdad.

	INDICE	PÁGS.
1	RESUMEN/ABSTRACT.....	08
2	INTRODUCCIÓN	12
	2.1 La Psico-oncología como disciplina.....	15
	2.2 Demografía del cáncer	16
	2.3 Demografía del suicidio.	21
	2.4 Psicopatología en pacientes oncológicos	23
	2.5 Conductas de suicidio en pacientes oncológicos.....	26
	2.6 Modelos teóricos y variables en salud	29
3	Overview of Study and Design.....	40
	3.1 Aims and hypotheses.....	41
	3.2 Methods & Instruments.....	42
	3.2.1 Sociodemographics data.....	44
	3.2.2 Scale of Suicidal Ideation (SSI).....	45
	3.2.3 Beck Depression Scale (BDI-II)	45
	3.2.4 Depression and Anxiety Scales (HADS).....	46
	3.2.5 Beck Hopelessness Scale (BHS)	46
	3.2.6 Personality Disorders(IPDE)	46
	3.2.7 Quality of Life (QLQ-C-30)	46
	3.2.8 Body Image (BIS).....	47
	3.2.9 Life Threatening Events (LTE)	47
	3.3 Statistical Method	48

3.3.1	Review of completed suicide and suicidal ideation in oncologic patients from a geographic classification.....	48
3.3.2	Suicide ideation among oncologic patients in a Spanish ward.....	48
3.3.3	Predictors of psychological distress in advanced cancer patients under palliative treatments.....	49
4	RESULTS: PAPERS.....	50
4.1	Review of completed suicide and suicidal ideation in oncologic patients from a geographic classification.....	51
4.2	Suicide ideation among oncologic patients in a Spanish ward.....	75
4.3	Predictors of psychological distress in advanced cancer patients under palliative treatments.....	87
4.4	La enfermedad oncológica: conductas suicidas y factores de riesgo asociados a su evolución.....	95
5	DISCUSIÓN, CONCLUSIONES/CONCLUSIONS Y PERSPECTIVAS FUTURAS.....	117
6	BIBLIOGRAFÍA.....	126
	ANEXOS.....	134
	FIGURAS Y TABLAS	135
	INFORME COMITÉ ÉTICO.....	136
	CONSENTIMIENTO INFORMADO Y BATERIA DE INSTRUMENTOS.....	137
	COMPENDIO ARTÍCULOS ORIGINALES.....	169

I. RESUMEN

“En honor a todas las mujeres que han vivido las

desdichas del cáncer o del suicidio”. Y con

mucho amor a mi tía Mari Carmen

mi madre Mariví

y mi hermana Estefanía.

Resumen

Los campos de Oncología Médica y Cirugía han ayudado a incrementar la supervivencia del paciente oncológico (Sánchez, Payer, De Angelis, Larrañaga, Capocaccia, Martinez, 2010). El objetivo actual se dirige a la promoción de las necesidades personales de los pacientes (Cruzado, 2003). En esta tesis vamos contribuir en las relaciones entre los factores bio-psico-sociales a través de instrumentos validados para identificar esas necesidades en los pacientes. Se presentan datos para responder cuál es la incidencia y la prevalencia de las conductas suicidas en pacientes con cáncer. Qué factores de riesgo están involucrados en las conductas suicidas. Cuál es el perfil del paciente oncológico con ideación suicida.

En esta tesis se han evaluado 202 pacientes ingresados en una unidad de oncología médica y cuidados paliativos. Se utilizaron instrumentos validados y adaptados en España y en población oncológica. Hay factores de riesgo relativos a las conductas suicidas, como rasgos de personalidad, eventos estresantes, sexo, edad, nivel socio-económico (Mendez-Bustos, Leon-Martinez, Miret, Baca-Garcia, & Lopez-Castroman, 2013; Miret, Caballero, Huerta-Ramírez, Moneta, Olaya, Chatterji, 2014) que se pueden encontrar en la subpoblación oncológica. Además, en nuestro estudio se ha encontrado que los pacientes con cáncer tienen altos niveles de ideación suicida, sin diferencias en cuanto al tipo de tumor, pero sí en cuanto a la edad, al tratamiento y al sexo, siendo las mujeres y pacientes de más edad y en tratamiento paliativo los que están a mayor riesgo. La desesperanza y la calidad de vida, incluida la imagen corporal afectan en gran medida el malestar psicológico del paciente y a la ideación suicida. Por ello, el paciente se puede beneficiar de la detección de los aspectos psicopatológicos a lo largo del proceso y a la vez el sistema sanitario puede beneficiarse de una reducción de costes.

Abstract

Medical oncology and surgery have helped survival rate in oncologic patients has increased (Sánchez, Payer, De Angelis, Larrañaga, Capocaccia, Martinez, 2010). Consequently, promoting medicine and psychology to focus on physical and personal needs of cancer patients (Cruzado, 2003). Therefore, our objective is to contribute to the relations between bio-psycho-social factors through consolidated assessment to identify and help to treat psychological needs of cancer patients. The present thesis includes a sample of cancer patients who experience psychological distress that may end in the desire for one's own death. We try to answer: What is the incidence and prevalence of suicidal behavior in cancer patients? What are the risk factors for suicidal behavior in patients with cancer? What is the profile of cancer patients with suicidal ideation?

A sample of 202 in-patients of medical oncology and palliative care were screened for psychological distress during admission. Following studies in the general population we identified risk factors of suicidal behaviors such as personality, gender, age (Mendez-Bustos, Leon-Martinez, Miret, Baca-Garcia, & Lopez-Castroman, 2013; Miret, Caballero, Huerta-Ramírez, Moneta, Olaya, Chatterji, 2014). Furthermore, in our study it has been found high suicidal ideation, especially in women, older patients and with palliative treatments had more discomfort and poorer quality of life. Hopelessness, body image problems and quality of life are risk factors for suicide ideation and distress. It was found that there are no significant differences in suicidal ideation between types of tumor but that lung cancer had a significant risk of distress. In conclusion, psycho-oncological assessment throughout the oncological process can benefit patients. Psychological screening and treatment can lead to cost reductions and a benefit for the patients.

II.INTRODUCCIÓN

Este trabajo de tesis se presenta para obtener el grado de Doctor en el programa de Psicología Clínica y de la Salud con mención de excelencia y mención internacional de la Universidad Autónoma de Madrid y es el resultado del trabajo realizado entre los años 2012-2016. Todo empezó en 2009, durante una clase de Psicología de la salud, allí inicié mi interés por investigar en oncología a través de trabajos de sufrimiento y espiritualidad de Ramón Bayés, Pilar Arranz, Javier Barbero entre otros. Pero no fue hasta llegar al Hospital Jiménez Díaz que descubrí mi pasión por el estudio de los factores de personalidad y las conductas suicidas a través de los estudios de Enrique Baca y Jorge López-Castroman, tal fue mi impresión que desde ese año decidí dedicar mi vida académica a la investigación del cáncer y del suicidio.

Esta tesis se presenta por compendio de publicaciones y está formada por tres artículos publicados en dos revistas internacionales y una nacional. Y un capítulo de libro. Todo el estudio parte de trabajos previos en la investigación sobre las relaciones entre la psicopatología, la salud y el suicidio (Mann, Wateraux, Haas, & Malone, 1999) y los problemas psicológicos en pacientes oncológicos (Holland & Alici, 2010) con ello surge la necesidad de prevención y tratamiento del malestar referido dentro y fuera de los ingresos, y que puede afectar al proceso de toma de decisiones con el equipo sanitario (Holland & Alici, 2010).

Este proyecto doctoral consta de dos partes. La primera corresponde al marco teórico y expone brevemente en **español** los contenidos generales y una introducción a la cuestión del trabajo doctoral. En esta primera parte se introduce la disciplina de la Psico-oncología, para explicar el campo de estudio del que parte este trabajo de investigación. Se recogen datos de incidencia y prevalencia del cáncer y de las conductas suicidas, especialmente, durante 2012-2014, periodo de investigación

doctoral. Se resumen los aspectos psicopatológicos principales en pacientes oncológicos. Se presentan los modelos de salud y suicidio en los que se apoyan las variables incluidas en el estudio. Y se profundiza en la cuestión de las conductas suicidas en pacientes oncológicos.

La segunda parte presenta la investigación empírica con tres artículos científicos en **inglés** y un capítulo de libro en español (originales en ANEXO). El objetivo es describir las distintas escalas aplicadas a pacientes oncológicos que recogen datos de depresión, ansiedad, calidad de vida, imagen corporal, personalidad, eventos estresantes e ideación suicida. Para poder identificar los factores de salud, bienestar y malestar de las personas con cinco tipos de tumores principales elegidos por su incidencia y mortalidad en España (Sánchez, et al., 2010). Para ello, hemos desarrollado una revisión bibliográfica de las conductas suicidas en pacientes oncológicos, “Review of completed suicide and suicidal ideation in oncologic patients from a geographic classification”. Un artículo sobre la ideación suicida, “Suicide ideation among oncologic patients in a Spanish ward” y otro sobre el malestar psicológico en pacientes oncológicos con tratamientos curativos y paliativos, “Predictors of psychological distress in advanced cancer patients under palliative treatments”. Además, un capítulo de libro “La enfermedad oncológica: conductas suicidas y factores de riesgo asociados a su evolución”. En ellos, como se menciona anteriormente, profundizamos en los factores de riesgo de las conductas suicidas en pacientes con cáncer, se retrata el perfil del paciente oncológico con ideación suicida y se describen las asociaciones más directas de los aspectos psicopatológicos encontrados en el grupo de estudio. Hemos aportado datos de prevalencia de la ideación suicida y el malestar psicológico en pacientes con cáncer y hemos mostrado los factores de riesgo de las conductas suicidas y el cáncer a nivel nacional e internacional.

2.1 La Psico-oncología como disciplina.

La Psico-oncología, también reconocida como Psicología Oncológica, ha venido desarrollándose desde los años 60 con el objetivo de definir, estudiar y analizar los factores mediadores del cáncer desde una perspectiva bio-psico-social, integrando conocimientos médicos, psicológicos y de ayuda social (Barbero, 2003; Die-Trill, 2003). La psico-oncología es una especialidad de la Psicología interrelacionada con la oncología médica (Cruzado, 2014) que se encarga del estudio científico de la persona que desarrolla cáncer y proporciona el conjunto de técnicas para el cuidado psicosocial del paciente y sus allegados con el objetivo de colaborar con el tratamiento médico-oncológico y el manejo de las variables psicosociales involucradas en el malestar (Almanza-Muñoz & Holland, 2000).

El desarrollo de la Psico-oncología cuenta con la importancia sanitaria y social del cáncer (Sánchez et al., 2010). Los pacientes con cáncer y sus familias se ven afectados por acontecimientos estresantes de alta magnitud por su número, intensidad y duración, que les provoca gran sufrimiento y malestar relacionado con la muerte (Bayés, 1998; Callahan, 2000). El desafío de la psico-oncología se dirige a diferentes perspectivas integrales, por un lado, la prevención de conductas de riesgo para el desarrollo del malestar y sufrimiento y por otro lado la potenciación de los factores de protección, y del soporte bio-psico-social y existencial de las personas y sus cuidadores durante el proceso de enfermedad. En la actualidad se puede encontrar un aumento de publicaciones nacionales e internacionales en la temática de los factores psicológicos asociados a la vulnerabilidad, evaluación, prevención y tratamientos del cáncer (Cruzado, 2014).



Figura 1. La Psicooncología como disciplina (Cruzado, 2003).

2.2 Demografía del Cáncer: definición y descripción del Cáncer.

El cáncer es una enfermedad médica producto de diversos factores de riesgo, como los estilos de vida y las alteraciones genéticas, y supone el comienzo de un proceso de prevención, diagnóstico, tratamiento y seguimiento por un equipo multidisciplinar (Amigo Vázquez, 2014). Cuando se habla de “neoplasia” se hace referencia a un nuevo crecimiento. Las células neoplásicas tienen una capacidad de proliferación más elevada que la de tejidos normales. Las causas que pueden provocar cáncer son muy numerosas, es por ello que se van a exponer las más relevantes (Almanza-Muñoz,& Holland, 2003; Cruzado, 2014)

- Factores inmunitarios. El sistema inmune participa en el reconocimiento y la destrucción de células alteradas, por lo que alteraciones en el sistema inmunológico de los pacientes impiden la destrucción de estas células extrañas al organismo, facilitando así su proliferación.
- Factores infecciosos. Proceso oncogénesis a través de la participación de virus (i.e. Epstein-Barr, Papiloma humano, hepatitis B,C...), provocando el

desarrollo de antígenos tumores específicos en la membrana y citoplasma de células infectadas.

- Factores físicos. La ingestión de cáusticos, inflamaciones crónicas por cuerpos extraños, como prótesis y asbestos, traumatismos repetidos, factores físicos que provocan alteraciones directas sobre el ADN y su replicación, facilitan la aparición de neoplasias.
- También se señalan factores químicos, como carcinógenos orgánicos e inorgánicos, el tabaco y la polución atmosférica. Dado que el aire respirado contiene gran cantidad de carcinógenos químicos, se considera un importante factor relacionado con la aparición de algunos tumores malignos.
- Factores hormonales. El inicio de relaciones sexuales de manera precoz, la promiscuidad y un elevado número de embarazos, la menarquía temprana y la menopausia tardía también pueden guardar relación con el desarrollo del cáncer.
- factores familiares y étnicos. Las características genéticas que son heredadas, y modificadas por el ambiente u otros carcinógenos externos, pueden contribuir a la aparición y progresión de un cáncer.

La cirugía oncológica es una rama de la Oncología General y una especialización de la Cirugía General, siendo el arma terapéutica más eficaz para la cura o abordaje de los diferentes tipos de cáncer. Puede ser una cirugía preventiva, curativa, paliativa, reconstructora, etc. Dependiendo de la necesidad y los objetivos terapéuticos. Otro tratamiento principal es el de radioterapia de tipo radical, complementaria o paliativa según esté indicada por el tipo de tumor, con el objetivo de disminuir riesgos o como antiálgico. La quimioterapia que consiste en la administración de fármacos que actúan impidiendo la reproducción de células malignas, puede ser complementaria, neoadyuvante, alternante, intra-arterial o intra-pericárdica. Otros son: la hormonoterapia y

la inmunoterapia con el fin de estimular los respectivos sistemas para defender el organismo.

A continuación se van a aportar datos procedentes del último informe de la Sociedad Española de Oncología Médica (SEOM) durante el periodo 2012-2013 de la investigación de esta tesis doctoral (Ferlay, Soerjomataram, Ervik, Dikshit, Eser, Mathers, et al., 2012; Sánchez et al., 2010).

La incidencia del cáncer en España en 2012 fue de 215.534 casos (alrededor de 2/3 partes en pacientes ≥ 65 años), con una tasa estandarizada por edad de 215,5 casos por 100.000 habitantes por año, y un riesgo de presentar cáncer antes de los 75 años de 25.1%. (Ferlay, et al., 2012). Los cinco cánceres más frecuentes en hombres, mujeres y en ambos sexos en España han sido los siguientes en orden decreciente por número de casos como se puede observar en la Tabla 1 (Sánchez et al., 2010).

Tabla 1. Tumores más frecuentes en ambos sexos en España en 2012

Orden	Hombre	Mujer	Ambos sexos
1º	Próstata	Mama	Colorrectal
2º	Pulmón	Colorrectal	Próstata
3º	Colorrectal	Cuerpo útero	Pulmón
4º	Vejiga	Pulmón	Mama
5º	Estómago	Ovario	Vejiga

Fuente: adaptación propia de (Ferlay, et al., 2012)

Respecto a la mortalidad por cáncer en España, el número de muertes fue de 102.762 casos (3/4 partes con ≥ 65 años) en 2012, con una tasa estandarizada por edad de 98,1

casos por 100.000 habitantes por año, y un riesgo de fallecer por cáncer antes de los 75 años de 19,2% (Ferlay, Steliarova-Foucher, Lortet-Tieulent, Rosso, Coebergh, Comber, 2012). Según los últimos datos publicados por el Instituto Nacional de Estadística (INE, 2014) los tumores fueron la segunda causa de muerte en ambos sexos, responsables de 27,5 de cada 100 defunciones, por detrás únicamente de las enfermedades del sistema circulatorio y por delante de las enfermedades del sistema respiratorio. Por sexo, los tumores fueron la primera causa de muerte en los hombres, con una tasa de 296,3 fallecidos por cada 100.000 habitantes y fueron la segunda causa de muerte en mujeres con una tasa de 180 fallecidas por cada 100.000 habitantes. En 2012, se produjeron alrededor de 3.45 millones de nuevos casos y alrededor de 1.5 millones de muertes a causa del cáncer en Europa (Malvezzi, Bertuccio, Levi, La Vecchia, & Negri, 2013).

Tabla 2. Incidencia, Mortalidad y Prevalencia a 5 años en ambos sexos en España en 2012

	Incidencia			Mortalidad			Prevalencia a 5 años		
	N	%		N	%		N	%	
Cáncer									
Colorrectal	32240	15	1º	14700	14,3	2º	89705	15,4	3º
Pulmón	26715	12,4	3º	21118	20,6	1º	28148	4,8	5º
Mama	25215	11,0	4º	6075	5,9	3º	104210	17,9	1º
Próstata	27853	12,9	2º	5481	5,3	4º	102559	17,6	2º
Vejiga	13789	6,4	5º	5007	4,9	5º	47225	8,1	4º

Fuente: adaptación (Ferlay, et al., 2012)

En hombres, la incidencia más alta es para el cáncer de próstata, la mortalidad más elevada para el cáncer de pulmón, y la prevalencia a 5 años es mayor para el cáncer de próstata (Ferlay, et al., 2012).

Tabla 3. Incidencia, Mortalidad y Prevalencia a 5 años en hombres en España en 2012

	Incidencia			Mortalidad			Prevalencia a 5 años		
	N	%		N	%		N	%	
Cáncer									
Colorrectal	19261	15	3º	8742	13,7	2º	53691	16,4	2º
Pulmón	21780	16,9	2º	17430	27,4	1º	22768	7	4º
Próstata	27853	27,7	1º	5481	8,6	3º	102559	31,4	1º
Vejiga	11584	9	4º	4102	6,5	4º	39824	12,2	3º
Testículos	823	,6	5º	42	,1	5º	3242	1	5º

Fuente: adaptación (Ferlay,et al., 2012)

En mujeres, la mayor incidencia, mortalidad y prevalencia a 5 años es para el cáncer de mama, seguido del colon-recto y el cuerpo de útero (Ferlay, et al., 2012).

Tabla 4. Incidencia, Mortalidad y Prevalencia a 5 años en mujeres en España en 2012

	Incidencia			Mortalidad			Prevalencia a 5 años		
Cáncer	N	%		N	%		N	%	
Colorrectal	12979	14,9	2º	5958	15,2	2º	36014	14,1	2º
Pulmón	4935	5,7	4º	3688	9,4	3º	5380	2,1	4º
Mama	25215	29	1º	6075	15,5	1º	104210	40,8	1º
Cuerpo de útero	5121	5,9	3º	1211	3,1	5º	19272	7,6	3º
Ovarios	3236	3,7	5º	1878	4,8	4º	7925	3,1	5º

Fuente: adaptación (Ferlay, et al., 2012)

2.3 Demografía del suicidio

La tasa de suicidios es considerado un indicador objetivo y fiable del estado de bienestar emocional y de la calidad de vida de la población (Mendez-Bustos, et al. 2013). En España, la tasa de suicidio completado es del 7% por cada 100,000 habitantes, la ideación suicida es cerca del 4% y los intentos suicidas cerca del 2%, a lo largo de la vida (Miret et al., 2014). Al contrario de lo que ocurre en otros países europeos y norteamericanos (Andrés & Halicioglu, 2010) las conductas suicidas no han aumentado en la última década, y la media se mantiene más baja que a nivel europeo (Miret et al., 2014). Con esta información, las conductas suicidas son consideradas un síntoma de malestar social y constituyen un problema socio-sanitario con más de un millón de fallecimientos anuales a nivel mundial, siendo de las primeras causas de muerte (Andrés & Halicioglu, 2010; Nock, Hwang, Sampson, & Kessler, 2010). El gasto socio-sanitario se ve incrementado al aumentar los tratamientos a los pacientes con uno varios intentos

de suicidio (Méndez-Bustos, et al., 2013). La reincidencia afecta especialmente a las mujeres, que realizan hasta 2-3 veces más intentos que los hombres, quienes a su vez se suicidan 2-4 veces más que las mujeres (Nock, Hwang, Sampson & Kessler, 2008). Los hombres presentan más riesgo de conducta suicidas y un mayor empleo de métodos más letales, presentan más agresividad, asociada a un rol tradicional masculino y mayor consumo de sustancias adictivas mientras que las mujeres ocupan un rol de cuidados y presentan más quejas somáticas (Sánchez-López, Rivas-Diez, & Cuéllar-Flores, 2013).

Existe además una importante asociación entre trastornos mentales y suicidio, visible a través de los muchos estudios que coinciden en mostrar que el 90% de las víctimas de suicidio presentaban uno o más trastornos psiquiátricos, por medio de diferentes técnicas como la autopsia psicológica (Arsenault-Lapierre, Kim, & Turecki, 2004). Por otro lado el duelo ante el suicidio de algún familiar afecta a casi un 7% de personas cada año. El estudio de la historia familiar de suicidio y cómo afecta a la familia y al posible suicida nos expone la importancia de las relaciones sociales, como la falta de apoyo social o la pérdida de la pareja por suicidio o la pérdida de un padre o hijo puede incrementar el riesgo de tener trastornos mentales o conductas suicidas (Pitman, Osborn, King, & Erlangsen, 2014).

Los trastornos afectivos ocupan los primeros puestos. El riesgo de ideación suicida (odds ratio) en un estudio epidemiológico de EEUU es de hasta 3,4 veces más alto cuando la persona tiene un trastorno de ansiedad, 4,7 veces más alto cuando el trastorno es de depresión y de hasta 6,1 veces más alto cuando hay tres o más trastornos comparado con las personas que no padecen ningún trastorno mental, y estos niveles crecen significativamente cuando se realizan planes o intentos suicidas (Nock, 2008; Nock, 2010). Entre las personas con ideación suicida, el riesgo de intento de suicidio es

más alto cuando tienen problemas de adicción y de control de impulsos. Por lo tanto, la presencia de un trastorno mental previo está asociado muy significativamente al riesgo de conductas suicidas, incluso cuando se controlan los factores socio-demográficos (Nock, 2008).

2.4 Psicopatología en pacientes oncológicos

Los pacientes con cáncer y sus allegados se ven afectados por acontecimientos estresantes relativos a la enfermedad y otras dificultades como las económicas, sociales o personales. Estos acontecimientos varían según su número, intensidad y duración, estando presentes desde el inicio del proceso oncológico, los tratamientos y hasta los cuidados paliativos y duelo. Los pacientes oncológicos o sus familias demandan atención psicosocial para mejorar su bienestar y calidad de vida y para afrontar los efectos de la enfermedad y los tratamientos.

Los trastornos mentales más comunes entre los pacientes oncológicos son los de depresión (Chochinov, 2001; Massie, 2004) y de ansiedad (Balci Sengul, Kaya, Sen, & Kaya, 2014). La depresión es una complicación muy frecuente en los procesos oncológicos; su prevalencia puede alcanzar el 58% considerando la dimensionalidad del trastorno de ánimo, distintos instrumentos y poblaciones estudiadas (Massie, 2004; Weinberger et al., 2011). Los estudios sobre depresión en cáncer han encontrado niveles más altos de sintomatología depresiva en pacientes con diagnóstico de cáncer de pulmón, ginecológicos, mama, colon-recto y genito-urinarios (Walker et al., 2014), que a su vez tienen mayor riesgo de conductas suicidas (Quill, 2008; Misono, Weiss, Fann, Redman & Yueh. 2008). Por otro lado, los trastornos de ansiedad pueden llegar a tener una prevalencia de hasta el 30% en estos pacientes, siendo el estrés postraumático, las

fobias y la ansiedad generalizada, los más frecuentes (Balci Sengul et al., 2014; Holland & Alici, 2010).

Se ha encontrado que los pacientes con altos niveles de malestar psico-emocional tienen mayor riesgo de conductas suicidas y menor supervivencia (Akechi et al., 2010; Balci Sengul et al., 2014; Chochinov, 2001). Otros factores de riesgo que pueden aparecer y empeorar el proceso oncológico son el consumo de alcohol (Botega et al., 2010; Pukkila, Hakko, Väisänen, Särkioja, & Räsänen, 2000) y la desesperanza (Breitbart, Rosenfeld, Pessin, & et al., 2000; Grassi, Travado, Gil, Sabato, Rossi, Tomamichel, 2010). No hay muchos estudios que se hayan centrado en diferenciar trastornos de personalidad y su relación con las conductas suicidas en pacientes oncológicos (Hay & Passik, 2000; Miovic & Block, 2007). Los trastornos de personalidad, especialmente el antisocial, narcisista y límite, son factores de riesgo del suicidio en la población general y en diferentes enfermedades como la oncológica, sobre todo cuando se dan rasgos de agresividad, perfeccionismo y de impulsividad (Blasco-Fontecilla, Baca-García, Dervic, Perez-Rodríguez, López-Castroman, Saiz-Ruiz et al. 2009; Perry, Presniak, Trevor & Olson, 2013).

La calidad de vida en pacientes oncológicos influye en las decisiones terapéuticas y el cuidado de la salud mental y física. La mala calidad de vida y las distorsiones corporales están relacionadas con sintomatología ansioso-depresiva, siendo el dolor y los eventos estresantes aquellos que pueden suscitar mayor malestar (Aronson et al., 1993; Hopwood et al., 2001; Lillberg et al., 2003). Los estudios sobre calidad de vida y las alteraciones corporales-sexuales en cáncer, parecen coincidir en que la morbilidad psicológica en pacientes con cáncer de mama, pulmón, cavidad oral y cuello es alta, sobretudo en fases avanzadas o después de tratamientos quirúrgicos como la

mastectomía u otras terapias como la radiación que aumentan los niveles de depresión, ansiedad y conllevan mayor malestar en la calidad de vida global así como en las escalas funcionales, dolor, fatiga, y aspectos corporales y sexuales (Rajmohan & Kumar, 2013; Reich, Lesur, & Perdrizet-Chevallier, 2008).

Finalmente, en pacientes paliativos se ha encontrado una mayor prevalencia de depresión mayor y de trastornos de ansiedad estimados entre el 20-50% y 20-40% respectivamente (Mitchell et al., 2011; Mystakidou, et al., 2005; Mystakidou et al., 2008; Rajmohan & Kumar, 2013). También existe preocupación en torno a los trastornos de sustancias como el alcohol en pacientes paliativos (Passik & Theobald, 2000), las alteraciones de la personalidad (Miovic & Block, 2007) y la esquizofrenia son considerados factores de riesgo a tener en cuenta para los tratamientos y cuidados en general, que al igual que la calidad de vida puede alterar las expectativas de supervivencia en los pacientes oncológicos (Chang et al., 2014).

Finalmente, el desafío al que se enfrenta la psico-oncología es el de detectar y adaptarse a las necesidades de los pacientes, ya que no todos precisan asistencia psicológica o psiquiátrica por el hecho de tener cáncer (Massie, 2004; Warmenhoven, van Rijswijk, van Weel, Prins, & Vissers, 2012). Por otra parte, las dolencias de tipo psíquico que presentan los pacientes en relación con su enfermedad oncológica están muchas veces infra-diagnosticadas e infra-tratadas y menos del 10% de pacientes oncológicos son derivados para valoración por un especialista en Salud Mental (Holland & Alici, 2010; Massie, 2004), algo que ocurre especialmente en personas mayores (Weinberger, Bruce, Roth, Breitbart, & Nelson, 2011) con peor calidad de vida (Delgado-Guay et al., 2009; Irving & Lloyd-Williams, 2010; Mystakidou et al., 2005).

2.5 Conductas suicidas en pacientes oncológicos.

En este trabajo de investigación se va a exponer en primer lugar un repaso conceptual sobre las conductas suicidas y la terminología relativa a las mismas. La incidencia del suicidio en personas con cáncer puede llegar a ser 1,3 y 2,6 veces superior a la de la población general, dependiendo del tipo de diagnóstico, pronóstico y factores de riesgo mencionados anteriormente (Misono, et al., 2008; Robson, Scrutton, Wilkinson, & MacLeod. 2010). La ideación suicida es también importante por su prevalencia a lo largo de la vida variando transculturalmente entre el 2,1% y el 14,1%, habiendo sido estimada en España alrededor de un 3,5% en población general (Miret et al., 2014), mientras que en población oncológica, la prevalencia se situaría entre un 7%-25% y hasta 40% si además el paciente cuenta con antecedentes psiquiátricos (Botega et al., 2010; Costantini et al., 2014; Fang et al., 2014; Misono, Weiss, Fann, Redman, & Yueh, 2008; Quill, 2008).

La identificación de los síntomas o signos que alerten sobre la presencia de dolencias psíquicas, y en especial del riesgo de suicidio, es un objetivo deseable para el correcto manejo de los pacientes oncológicos desde una perspectiva integral (Misono, Weiss, Fann, Redman & Yueh. 2008; Spoletini et al., 2011):

- El suicidio es el acto intencional de perjudicarse a uno mismo con la intención de terminar con la vida y que tiene como consecuencia final la muerte. Puede realizarse de una manera activa (buscando intencionalmente la muerte de uno mismo) o pasiva (evitando cualquier manera disponible de salvamento).
- El intento suicida es un acto intencional similar al anterior, pero que no consigue la finalidad de la propia muerte.

- La ideación suicida son aquellos pensamientos encaminados o relacionados con la posibilidad de cometer un acto suicida. En un sentido similar, aparecen también:
- La planificación suicida que es la formulación de planes y proyectos, más o menos estructurados, encaminados a cometer suicidio.
- El deseo pasivo de muerte es el deseo de que la muerte sobrevenga por causa natural o accidental, pero sin la realización de ningún acto encaminado a tal fin.
- El deseo de una muerte acelerada es la esperanza de que la muerte natural por una enfermedad llegue cuanto antes. En muchas ocasiones este deseo lo presentan personas con enfermedades oncológicas avanzadas y con mal pronóstico, como deseo de que termine el sufrimiento. En este último caso hay que considerar que no sea patológico si no hay formulado un plan de suicidio.

Aun siendo el cáncer en sí un factor de riesgo para el suicidio sólo una minoría de los pacientes con cáncer intenta suicidarse (Misono, et al 2008; Robson, Scrutton, Wilkinson, & MacLeod. 2010). Existen otros factores que contribuyen a que una persona con una enfermedad oncológica intente suicidarse, no bien conocidos todavía, como otras enfermedades médicas (por ejemplo, cardiovasculares), el estado de la enfermedad o los efectos secundarios (Fang, Fall, Mittleman, Sparén, Ye, Adami, et al. 2012; Hem, Loge, Haldorsen & Ekeberg 2004; Yousaf, Christensen, Engholm & Sotrm2005; Robinson, Renshaw, Okello, Moller & Davies 2009; Nasseria, Mills, Mirshahidic & Moulton. 2012; Ahn, Shin, Cho, Park, Won & Ho Yun. 2010).

1. Factores asociados al proceso oncológico:

- La severidad del cáncer depende del tipo de tumor (a mayor mortalidad mayor riesgo), los tratamientos recibidos, la localización, entre otros. Diferentes estudios han indagado en los distintos tipos de tumores resaltando lugares como pulmón, páncreas, cabeza y cuello, cavidad oral, faringe, laringe, mama, próstata y ginecológicos, y otros como melanomas y cáncer de colon-recto. Resultados que se muestran por separado y no comparando entre los mismos. Salvo en extensión: Los tumores extendidos o no localizados tienen más riesgo comparado con tumores localizados. Cuanto más avanzado es el estadio más riesgo autolítico existe o mayor deseo de muerte acelerada (Robson, Scrutton, Wilkinson, & MacLeod. 2010; Misono, Weiss, Fann, Redman & Yueh. 2008).
- Tiempo transcurrido desde el diagnóstico. El riesgo de suicidio es mayor en las primeras semanas tras el diagnóstico y durante los 5 primeros años (Robson, et al., 2010; Misono, et al., 2008; Johnson, Garlow, Brawley & Master. 2011). Durante el primer mes de alta hospitalaria tras un ingreso en Oncología existe un incremento del riesgo de suicidio (Lin, Wu, & Lee. 2009).
- Existe más riesgo de suicidio entre pacientes que sobreviven al cáncer, alrededor del 7-13% de los supervivientes de cáncer infantil presentan ideación suicida (Recklitis, Diller, Li, Robinson & Zeltzer 2010).

2. Factores asociados a la salud psíquica previa y actual

- Padecer una enfermedad psiquiátrica incrementa el riesgo de suicidio tanto en población general (Arsenault-Lapierre, Kim, & Turecki. 2004) como oncológica (Rasic, et al. 2008).

- La depresión y la ansiedad son más prevalentes entre pacientes oncológicos, y suponen, como ya hemos dicho, un importante factor de riesgo de suicidio (Balci Sengül, et al. 2014). La desesperanza es un factor clave en el desarrollo de trastornos psicológicos y en el proceso de deseo de muerte (Mystakidou et al. 2008).
- Los pacientes con mayor número de intentos suicidas aumentan el riesgo de suicidio tanto en población general (Mendez Bustos, et al. 2013) como oncológica (Rasic, Belik, Bolton, Chochinov, & Sareen, 2008).

3. Factores sociodemográficos y del entorno

- El apoyo social, nivel económico, estado civil se han considerado en los estudios de suicidio como algunos de los aspectos con mayor potencia predictiva por su relación con un mayor número de recursos de afrontamiento (Fang et al., 2014) al igual que en los estudios sobre suicidio en pacientes oncológicos (Misono, et al., 2008; Robson, et al., 2010).
- En cuanto al sexo, la población masculina tiene mayores índices de suicidio y con mayor violencia en sus actos y las mujeres más intentos de suicidio no consumado (Aketchi, 2010; Camidge, Stockton & Frame, 2007; Chung, & Lin, 2010; Mendez Bustos, et al. 2013). Los pacientes oncológicos jóvenes (Kunin, Patenaude, & Grier, 1995) y entre los 40-60 años (Miller, Mogun, Azrael, Hempstead & Solomon 2008) tienen mayor riesgo de suicidio.

2.6 Modelos teóricos y variables de salud

En el presente trabajo se ha elegido una temática de la investigación desde la Psicología de la Salud que está centrada en el malestar psicosocial que lleva al suicidio en las personas con cáncer. Entre 1946-1948, la OMS definió la salud como el bienestar

físico, mental y social y no como la mera ausencia de enfermedad o discapacidad (OMS, 1948). Para ello vamos a presentar algunos modelos de la Psicología de la Salud (Amigo-Vázquez, 2014) y modelos de suicidio para enmarcar mejor la aparición de aspectos psicopatológicos durante el proceso de enfermedad oncológica.

Tabla 5. Modelos de la conducta de salud

Teoría de la Utilidad Subjetiva Esperada (Edwards, 1954):	Conductas de salud son decisiones subjetivas y útiles que difieren interpersonalmente debido a las creencias y situaciones.
Modelo de Creencias de la Salud (Becker, 1974; Janz y Becker, 1984):	Conductas de salud determinadas por factores demográficos y psicosociales y por valores y creencias claves para la acción, externas o internas, que producen algún grado de preparación psicológica.
Teoría de la Autoeficacia o autorregulación (Bandura, 1977, 1986):	Conductas de salud motivadas y reguladas por el control de los determinantes y consecuencias de nuestro comportamiento, la valoración de nuestra conducta y la respuesta a ésta según cuánto se iguale a los estándares.
Modelo Transaccional de salud (Bruchon-Schweiter, 2002):	Es un modelo integrador de distintos enfoques médicos, psicológicos y sociales como la psicosomática, el estrés y la epidemiología. Los factores ambientales, sociodemográficos, individuales, psicosociales y

biológicos participan en la predicción de los factores de riesgo y de pronóstico y permiten la elaboración de estrategias de ajuste mediante la evaluación de los problemas y los criterios de la persona para solucionarla adversidad.

Adaptación propia. Modelos de la Psicología de la salud ([Amigo-Vázquez, 2014](#))

En los inicios de los modelos psicológicos del suicidio se trata de explicar el proceso de desarrollo de una conducta suicida y el por qué muchas personas con ideas de suicidio podían proseguir con el intento o el suicidio completado. De ahí la importancia de la prevención y predicción de estos pasos y su transición en el proceso de la conducta suicida son de gran importancia. Los siguientes modelos recogen componentes explicativos relevantes, como los factores de riesgo, relevantes en esta transición de la ideación suicida al intento y al suicidio completado (Barzilay & Apter, 2014; O'Connor & Nock, 2014).

Tabla 6. Modelos psicológicos del suicidio

Teoría del suicidio	Modelo que explica sociológicamente el suicidio a partir
Durkheim (1889)	de las influencias y el control de la sociedad (Las causas sociales se relacionan con las conductas suicidas):
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tipología social-Egoísta, apático, melancólico: debido a una falta de integración social, donde el individualismo gana terreno a la recreación social. Es la desintegración social producto de la

pérdida de prácticas y creencias comunes sólidamente sostenidas y desarrolladas lo que incrementaría el riesgo de conductas suicidas.

- Tipología Social Altruísta, sentido del deber, escéptico. La sociedad estructurada supone una gran carga a las personas. Por ejemplo, el suicidio altruista aparece en forma de casos aislados de suicidas que tienen el propósito de evitar una humillación a su persona o la vergüenza a su familia
- Tipología Social Anómico, irritable, aversión, no enfermo. Hay una disrupción en los valores sociales, una desorientación individual y un sentimiento de vacío experiencial sobre el significado de la vida. Por ejemplo, el matrimonio, divorcio o viudez (los hombres casados tienen menos riesgo que las mujeres casadas y que los divorciados o viudos). En tanto que la sociedad es un poder regulador de las prácticas, creencias y sentimientos de los individuos, en el caso de que ese poder se relaje, los individuos entrarán en un estado de desequilibrio en el que no tendrán ningún límite que poner a sus pasiones y deseos, lo cual los conducirá con mayor probabilidad al suicidio.

-
- Finalmente, hay un cuarto tipo de suicidio que es el *suicidio fatalista* contrario al suicidio anómico, o sea que no se debe a una falta de reglamentación sino a un exceso de la misma que exagera la opresión y las limitaciones del individuo y lo conduce por ese lado el suicidio. Es el suicidio en las esposas que se casan muy jóvenes, por no tolerar la disciplina del matrimonio, y en las mujeres casadas que no tienen hijos, les hace intolerable la vida conyugal

Modelo de vulnerabilidad al suicidio

Weiss (1954)

Modelo que describe la naturaleza del suicidio como resultado de un proceso social influenciado por la falta de apoyo. Conduciría a una situación estresante en la que el individuo trata de escapar de los problemas, que no puede resolver por sus propios medios (personalidad/estrategias) y que culmina con la conducta suicida.

Modelo Cúbico de suicidio

Shneidman (1985)

Se enfoca principalmente en relacionar constructos psicológicos como el dolor y la perturbación, con la presión ejercida sobre el ambiente. Da pie al “cubo suicida”, el suicidio se sitúa en la concatenación del dolor y la perturbación máxima con una elevada presión ambiental negativa. Los 4 pasos de este modelo serían la hostilidad, la perturbación, la constricción y el cese. La

hostilidad hacia sí mismo que, en los momentos previos al suicidio, se ve aumentada. La perturbación hace referencia a estados emocionales negativos y la forma en que estos influyen en las conductas del individuo. La constricción, como la imposibilidad de la persona de percibir todos los aspectos de la realidad.

Modelo de desesperanza
Beck (1990)

Modelo sobre la conducta suicida a partir de la aparición de la desesperanza como un conjunto de expectativas negativas de la triada cognitiva (percepción de que uno mismo, el mundo y los otros son negativos). El esquema del suicidio parte de sesgos en atención, procesamiento de la información, alteraciones en la memoria que acaban en desesperanza.

Modelo de Baumeister
(1990)

El escape de la situación aversiva y de un estado indeseado que altera las capacidades cognitivas y mentales serían los motivos fundamentales para la conducta suicida. Hay 6 pasos: discrepancia de estándares por altas expectativas, interpretación de los errores, un estado indeseado de auto-conocimiento, emociones negativas, intentos de escape para conseguir metas inmediatas y una inhibición conductual producto de la alteración cognitiva que acabaría en la búsqueda del escape utilizando las conductas suicidas.

El modo suicida como modelo cognitivo conductual del suicidio Rudd (2001)	Basado en los diez principios de la teoría cognitiva, este modelo describe el sistema de características cognitivas, afectivas, conductuales y fisiológicas asociadas con el desarrollo del riesgo suicida.
Modelo de activación diferencial de suicidabilidad Willians (2008)	Es un modelo de conexión asociativa que explica la experiencia de la ideación o conductas suicidas durante el episodio depresivo y la probabilidad de un aumento del riesgo durante los siguientes episodios depresivos.
Teoría interpersonal del suicidio Joiner (2009).	Modelo que trata de explicar las conductas suicidas desde los factores de apoyo social, la sobrecarga y la falta de pertenencia de las personas, que podrían llevar a la desesperanza, depresión y finalmente al suicidio. Sería por medio de la impulsividad que las personas realizan conductas de riesgo como el consumo de tóxicos, por medio de una relación indirecta, se relaciona con la conducta suicida.
Modelo integrativo motivacional-volitivo de la conducta suicida	Este modelo se basa en la teoría de diátesis-estrés que especifica los componentes de las fases pre-motivacionales y motivacionales (ideación y formación

O'Connor (2011) del intento) y volitivos (aparición de conductas) del suicidio.

Modelo del dolor psicológico del suicidio Este modelo parte de un proceso de investigación de modelos bio-médicos del suicidio desde los antecedentes del modelo serotoninérgico del suicidio hasta un modelo unificador del dolor mental en las conductas suicidas. León, Baca-García & Blasco-Fontecilla (2015) Este dolor mental es un fenómeno híbrido entre los factores biológicos y psico-sociales que explica el malestar insoportable como concepto central en el proceso de suicidio como escape.

Adaptación propia de los modelos psicológicos del suicidio de (Barzilay & Apter, 2014; O'Connor & Nock, 2014)

A partir de los modelos anteriores se puede explicar cómo los pacientes oncológicos descartarían posibles conductas de salud y con ello aumentaría el riesgo de suicidio o cómo se generaría el proceso de transición al suicidio al sucumbir a las conductas de riesgo, como la desesperanza, la impulsividad o el perfeccionismo (Barzilay & Apter, 2014; O'Connor & Nock, 2014) que les llevasen a sentir esa sobrecarga percibida y falta de pertenencia, sintiendo finalmente la indefensión en respuesta a la exposición continua de dolor, malestar, miedo (Joiner, 2009).

Las principales variables de salud son recogidas por las encuestas nacionales de salud (ENS, 2013) y forman parte del cuestionario QLQ-C-30 (Aronson et al., 1993), en su conjunto reflejan el modo de comportamientos a nivel personal, familiar, educativo y social, que resultan adaptativos o desadaptativos. Entre ellas encontramos:

Salud autopercebida

Es una medida multidimensional, en la mayoría de los casos aparece como un único ítem, de bienestar o malestar en que las personas se encuentran durante el momento de la evaluación (Benyamini, 2008). Con respecto a las subpoblaciones, esta medida parece indicar que el hombre percibe una mejor salud general que la mujer, en general se percibe peor salud según aumenta la edad y la variable de salud autopercebida recibe grandes influencias de otras variables sociodemográficas y el estilo de vida (Kondo, Kawachi, Subramanian, Takeda & Yamagata, 2008; Singh-Manoux et al., 2007).

Hábitos de sueño

El sueño es un buen indicador de calidad de vida y de salud, siendo la higiene del sueño un conjunto de pautas que influyen cambios en la calidad del sueño y estilos de vida. Tanto la cantidad como la calidad del sueño se asocian a cambios en el estado de ánimo, al bienestar subjetivo y a la salud física (Miró, Martínez, & Arriaza, 2006). Cerca de un 80% de pacientes con síndromes depresivos se quejan de un deterioro tanto de la calidad como cantidad del sueño y alrededor de un 40% de pacientes con enfermedades oncológicas (Edge, 2010; Ohayon, 2009).

Dolor

El dolor es considerado como un factor multidimensional muy relacionado con la salud a través de sus interacciones con los factores físicos, psicológicos, sociales, etc. Un dolor incontrolado puede incrementar el impacto negativo de la situación oncológica en los pacientes y alterar la percepción de salud en los mismos (Holland & Alici, 2010).

El sexo

Variable relacionada con la salud que indica que las mujeres tienen más demanda de cuidados y peor autoevaluación de su salud psicológica lo que conlleva una mayor medicalización (Encuesta Europea de Salud en España, 2009). Sin embargo, parece que del malestar referido por las mujeres sólo un 1% de la varianza se puede atribuir a la variable sexo (Pinquart, & Soerenser, 2003) y el malestar psicológico de los hombres está infradiagnosticado (Mahalik, 2011). Como se ha descrito anteriormente, el sexo supone un importante factor de riesgo de las conductas suicidas, siendo los hombres quienes presentan más suicidios y las mujeres más intentos autolíticos e ideación suicida. Al igual, existen tumores más proclives para hombres y mujeres y con diferentes tasas de mortalidad y morbilidad.

La edad

Cuanto mayor es la persona peor estado de salud y peor salud autopercebida debido a la mayor fragilidad física (Sánchez-López, et al., 2013). Al igual que el sexo, la edad es uno de los factores de riesgo principales en cuanto a las conductas suicidas y el proceso oncológico. Mientras que los adolescentes tienen más riesgo de suicidio, la mayor proporción de suicidios se produce en personas de la tercera edad y las personas mayores expresan también más deseo de morir, sobre todo en caso de enfermedades crónicas o comorbilidad (Nock, 2010).

Nivel socioeconómico

Las personas que se encuentran en una situación social y/o educativa baja tienen mayor riesgo de enfermar o no adoptar conductas adaptativas de salud al no acudir al sistema sanitario (Rodríguez-Sanz, Carrillo-Santistevé, & Borrell, 2005). También como

resultado del diagnóstico de cáncer, se ven reducidos los ingresos ya que la persona tiene que tomar una baja laboral o solicitar la incapacidad por el porcentaje de discapacidad (Cruzado, 2003).

Resumen

En esta primera parte de la tesis se ha desarrollado el marco teórico a través de la introducción al campo de estudio de la psico-oncología como herramienta de estudio y trabajo en un ámbito sanitario donde la psicología de la salud y la oncología se unen. Describimos algunos modelos de salud y suicidio, variables de salud, suicidio y psicopatología asociada. Con ello, entramos en la parte de metodología y diseño de los trabajos de investigación con el objetivo de presentar los factores y aspectos psicopatológicos relacionados con las conductas suicidas en pacientes con cáncer.

III. OVERVIEW OF STUDY AND DESIGN

Research on suicidal behavior and cancer raises several ethical issues and must follow ethical guidelines. All participating patients signed informed consent forms which fulfilled the three requirements of informed consent (information, voluntariness and competence). The study procedure was approved by the Ethical Board of the Jimenez Diaz Hospital of Madrid and followed the procedure approved by the Columbia University (Mann, et la., 1999).

3.1 Aims

1º Aim: Review of suicide behaviors and risk factors in oncologic patients.

2º Aim: Examination of the severity of suicidal ideation in a sample of oncologic patients considering different psychological and clinical features.

3º Aim: Study of the psychological factors related to psychological distress in oncologic patients under palliative care

To answer the first objective, we have developed a critical review of a 11 year-period about the recent research on suicidal behaviors in oncologic patients (Misono, Weiss, Fann, Redman & Yueh. 2008; Robson, Scrutton, Wilkinson, & MacLeod. 2010; Spoletini, 2010). To answer the second and third objectives we have developed the following hypotheses.

3.2 Hypotheses

3.2.1 Suicide ideation among oncologic patients in a Spanish ward

1º Hypothesis: The experience of depression and hopelessness will be associated to higher levels of suicidal ideation in oncologic patients.

To respond this hypothesis, we first reviewed suicidal behaviors in oncologic patients finding that patients with higher levels of suicide ideation and suicide attempt had higher levels of depression, anxiety, hopelessness or worse quality of life than those without suicidal behaviors (Misono, Weiss, Fann, Redman & Yueh. 2008; Robson, Scrutton, Wilkinson, & MacLeod. 2010).

3.2.2 Predictors of psychological distress in advanced cancer patients under palliative treatment

2ºHypothesis: The severity of psychological distress will be associated with worse quality of life, body image and hopelessness.

To verify this hypothesis, we part from studies in oncologic patients with high levels of distress (Brown, Kroenke, Theobald, Wu, & Tu, 2010; Delgado-Guay et al., 2009; Skarstein et al., 2000). Patients in palliative care with high levels of distress had many quality of life impairments and mental disorders (Delgado-Guay et al., 2009), hopelessness (Robinson, Kissane, Brooker, & Burney, 2014) and other clinical factors (Holland & Alici, 2010; Irving & Lloyd-Williams, 2010; Singer et al., 2009).

3.2 Methods and Instruments

Study I: Critical review of completed suicide and suicidal ideation in oncologic patients

Our search strategy included the following databases Medline, Pubmed, PsycInfo, Web of Science and ISOC/CISNE (Spanish databases) searched between January 2004 and April 2015, using keywords (Spanish-English): “cáncer-cancer”, “suicidio-suicide”, “ideación suicida-suicide ideation”, “intento suicida-suicide attempt”, “conductas suicidas-suicidal behaviors”, we did not exclude any age or type of cancer or suicide

behavior. Search results were merged and duplicate studies removed to produce one set of results with 823 articles. The abstracts of these 823 articles were reviewed for their relevance to the current review. This produced 215 articles for review, 68 of which met the inclusion criteria: papers within the specified 11-year period, written in English or Spanish, the population of study was oncologic patients, the subject of study was completed suicide, suicide attempt or suicidal ideation risk, the sample size was greater than 10 and 1 or more of the variables associated with cancer and suicide such as gender, age, type, site of cancer, risk factors including psychological and clinical (time of diagnosis, treatment and prognosis), and country of origin.

Study II & III Suicide Ideation & Psychological Distress in oncologic patients

Participants

A total of 202 in-patients were recruited in a medical oncology ward from January 2012 until January 2014 at Fundacion Jimenez Diaz hospital, Madrid, Spain. Most recruited patients had advanced cancer and were receiving palliative treatments (78.2%). Inclusion criteria were: i) to present a primary tumor located in lung, colon-rectum, or genitourinary area, which are the most frequent types of cancer in Spanish population(Sánchez et al., 2010); ii) to be 18 to 85 years old; and, iii) to sign a written informed consent before participating in the study. 27 patients were contacted but could not to participate due to exclusion criteria: i) Did not sign the informed consent, and ii) incapability to participate (advanced stage of the illness, family denial, etc).

Procedure

The suicide assessment procedure was based on the Columbia Suicide History Form (Mann et al., 1999). The Fundacion Jimenez Diaz Hospital ethics committee approved the study.

All questionnaires have been validated for their use on Spanish population: Scale of Suicide Ideation, SSI (Comeche et al., 1995), The International Personality Disorders Evaluation, IPDE (López-ibor et al., 1996), The Quality of Life Questionnaire (version 3.0) QLQ-C-3.0(Arraras et al., 2002), The Body Image Scale, BIS (Gomez-Campelo et al., 2014)The Beck Depression Instrument (version II), BDI-II (Sanz et al., 2005), The Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scales, HADS (Herrero et al., 2003), The Beck Hopelessness Scale, BHS (Aguilar García-Iturrospe et al., 1995) and The Life-Threatening Events, LTE (García-Nieto et al., 2012).

For the purpose of the second study, we examined only patients with advanced cancer (life expectation of less than six months) that were receiving palliative treatments (n=158, 78%). The remaining patients (n=44) were under curative treatment (i.e. chemo/radiotherapy, surgery). Other inclusion criteria were: i) to present a primary tumor located in lung, colon-rectum, or genitourinary area, which are the most frequent types of cancer in Spanish population(Sánchez et al., 2010); ; ii) to be 18 to 85 years old; and, iii) to sign a written informed consent before participating in the study.

3.2.1 Sociodemographic data

The suicide assessment procedure was based on the Columbia Suicide History Form (Mann, 1999). The procedure is a semi-structured interview with validated questionnaires to collect information about socio-demographic features, characteristics

of the suicide behaviors and essential psychological characteristics on oncologic patients.

3.2.2 Scale of Suicide Ideation

The Scale for Suicide Ideation (Beck et al., 1979), validated in Spanish population (Comeche, & Vallejo, 1995) evaluates ideas of suicide or death in clinical settings through 21 items. Each item response is graded according to suicidal intensity on a 3-point scale ranging from 0 to 2. Given that oncologic patients were not necessarily suicidal, we selected only 5 items that assess the main dimensions of suicidal ideas (desire to live; desire to die; reasons to live or to die; suicide ideation and previous attempts). All patients completed these 5 items. The remaining items of the SSI were not applicable in the absence of previous suicidal behaviors.

3.2.3 Beck Depression Scale

The Beck Depression Inventory (BDI-II) (Beck, Steer & Brown, 1996) validated in Spanish population (Sanz, & Vazquez, 2011). To measure depression symptoms and severity in people aged > 12 years with 21 items scored from 0 to 3. The standard cut-offs are minimal depression (0-9), moderate depression (10-29) to severe depression (30-63). Contains a substantial content of the BDI-IA, and omits items relating to weight loss, body image, hypochondria and working difficulty so that the assessment of symptoms corresponds to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fourth Edition (DSM-IV) criteria. Cronbach's alpha is 0.79-0.9.

3.2.4 Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scales

The Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale (HADS) (Zigmond & Snaith, 1983b) validated in Spanish population (Herrero, Blanch, Peri, De Pablo, Pintor & Bulbena, 2003), assesses anxiety and depressive symptoms in a general medical population through 14 items. There are 7 depression items measuring cognitive and emotional aspects of depression, predominantly anhedonia, intermingled with 7 anxiety items that focus on cognitive and emotional aspects of anxiety. Somatic items related to emotional and physical disorders are excluded. The HADS is endorsed by the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence for use in primary care in measuring baseline depression severity and responsiveness to treatment. HADS is one of the most commonly studied tool in oncologic patients, it has a good sensitivity and specificity for cancer patients and it is suitable for an initial screening tool for anxiety and depression. HADS Crombach's alpha is 0.83.

3.2.5 Hopelessness scale

The Beck Hopelessness Scale (BHS; Beck, 1974) with the Spanish Form (Aguilar García-Iturrospe, Hidalgo Montesinos, Cano García, López Manzano, Campillo Agusti & Hernández Martínez, 1995) examines thoughts and beliefs about the future through 20 true-false items.

3.2.6 International Personality Disorders Evaluation

The International Personality Disorder Evaluation Screening Questionnaire (IPDE; Loranger, 1994), validated in Spanish population (López-ibor, Pérez Urdániz & Rubio Larrosa, 1996), examines relevant traits and behaviors in the assessment of personality disorders according to the Diagnostic and Statistical

Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM IV TM) with 77- True/False self-report items.

3.2.7 Quality of Life Questionnaire

The third version of the core Quality of Life Questionnaire (QLQ-C-30; Aaronson, 1993), with the Spanish Form (Arrarás, Illarramendi & Valerdi. 1995), measures physical, psychological and social functions. Each item is scored in one of four categories (from 'not at all' to 'very much'), with the exception of Global QLQ (from 1 'very poor' to 7 'excellent'), the QLQ total score varies from 0 to 100. Crombach's alpha coefficient $< \text{or} = 0.70$ either before or during the medical treatment with a consistent high reliability and validity across Europe.

3.2.8 Body Image Scale

The Body Image Scale (BIS; Hopwood, et al. 2001) assesses body image self-perception and sexuality in oncologic patients with 10-items (total score from 0 to 30) constructed in collaboration with the European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC) Quality of Life Study Group. It is an important factor in quality of life evaluation for cancer outcomes from the treatments and the deterioration of the body. Crombach's alpha is 0.93, a high reliability to discriminate changes in patients with cancer.

3.2.9 Life Threatening Events

The Life Threatening Events (LTE, Brugha, 1990), validated in Spanish population (García-Nieto, Parra Uribe, Palao, Lopez-Castroman, Sáiz et al. 2012), examines recent stressful life events during the last year in 12 major categories. Positive responses score one point.

3.3. Statistical method

3.3.1 Review of completed suicide and suicidal ideation in oncologic patients from a geographic classification

In this review, we did not include statistical analyses. Moreover, this paper focus on identified risk factors related to suicide behaviors and cancer to overcome previous limitations (Robson, et al. 2010).

As mentioned, we reviewed Robson et al. 2010 procedures, results and, conclusions to identify limitations of previous studies and to determine how to proceed with our search. Main databases were consulted to classify works related to suicide behaviors in oncologic patients. We distributed geographically the ORs and results.

3.3.2 Suicide Ideation among oncologic patients in a Spanish ward

In order to investigate the factors associated with high levels of suicidal ideation among oncologic patients, we established a cutoff for suicidal ideation using the highest tertile in SSI scores and divided the sample in two groups (high vs. low suicidal ideation). Univariate comparisons of sociodemographic features, clinical variables and assessment scores between these two groups were made using Chi-Square test. We tested the association between the assessment instruments and the SSI using Cronbach's alpha. We predicted statistical power using Cohen's d (1-B > .95 is very high; 1-B ≤ .5 is low and 1-B = .8 is moderate-high). Finally, a logistic regression model was built to estimate adjusted ORs for high suicidal ideation using demographic, clinical and psychological variables associated with p-values ≤ .05 in the univariate analysis. We

established a cut-off for the psychological variables associated to the regression model (BHS, BDI, IPDE) using the highest tertile and obtaining higher and lower scores. Analyses were performed using SPSS 17.0.

3.3.3 Predictors of psychological distress in advanced cancer patients under palliative treatments

We used a semi-structured interview with questionnaires to collect information about socio-demographic features, clinical information and essential psychological characteristics of the patients. The assessment of psychological distress was made through the Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale (HADS) (Zigmond & Snaith, 1983b). The HADS has been designed to assess anxiety and depressive symptoms in a general medical population through 14 items, half of the items relate to anxiety (HADS-A) and the other half relate to depression (HADS-D). Each item on the questionnaire is scored from 0-3 and the maximum score is 21. For the purpose of this study we followed the criteria of Singer et al (2009) that have previously defined the ‘balanced’ cutoffs for cancer patients using HADS (Singer et al., 2009). Thus, patients with a HADS total score ≥ 13 were considered to present a significant level of psychological distress. $HADS-D \geq 5$ and $HADS-A \geq 7$ were the cutoffs for depression and anxiety, respectively. HADS demonstrated to be a valid and reliable screening instrument against the DSM-IV criteria in different settings (Delgado-Guay, Parsons, Li, Palmer, & Bruera, 2009), with an easy self-report administration and interpretation. We additionally used the Quality of Life Questionnaire (QLQ-C-30), which assesses physical, psychological and social functioning (Aaronson et al., 1993). In palliative care settings, both HADS and the QLQ-C-30 are frequently applied (Mystakidou, Tsilika, et al., 2005; Skarstein, Aass, Fosså, Skovlund, & Dahl, 2000).

IV.RESULTS: PAPERS

Review of completed suicide and suicidal ideation in oncologic patients from a geographic classification

Daniel Diaz-Frutos ^{1,2}, Enrique Baca-Garcia ¹, Jesus Garcia-Foncillas ² and Pablo Méndez Bustos ³.

1 Department of Psychiatry and Clinical Psychology, Fundación Jiménez Díaz Hospital, Autonoma University of Madrid, (UAM), Spain.

2 Department of Oncology, Fundación Jiménez Díaz Hospital, Autonoma University of Madrid, (UAM), Spain.

3 Universidad Católica del Maule. Chile.

(Accepted November 2016, online publication n.121. 2017)

Abstract

The risk of suicide in oncology is almost two times higher than in the general population, mainly associated to mental health disorders and diagnosis. A literature search of MEDLINE, PsycINFO, ISOC and CISNE between 2004-2015, yielded 823 articles of which the abstract was reviewed for their relevance. Two hundred fifteen articles were identified as relevant and following application of inclusion and exclusion criteria, 68 articles were included in the review. The suicide behaviors risk was higher in the USA, Sweden and South Korea. Mainly in men, with more violent methods of suicide, age (young adults and older>60), with prostate, lung, pancreas, head and neck tumors. There was high prevalence of suicidal behaviors in cancer population, however the differences between countries show how little risk factors has been researched.

Key words: Suicide; Suicide ideation; Suicide attempt; Cancer; Mental health.

Introduction

Cancer and suicide behaviors are considered life-threatening events causing millions of deaths worldwide (Quill, 2008; Spoletini et al., 2011). In Europe, cancer is a leading cause of death with 1.5 million deaths (Malvezzi, Bertuccio, Levi, La Vecchia, & Negri, 2013; Torre et al., 2015). And, there are between 3 and 31.5 suicides every 100,000 persons (Hoven, Mandell, & Bertolote, 2010). Risk factors in general population can be applied to oncologic populations (Robson, Scrutton, Wikinson & MacLeod, 2010) i) gender, women have higher risk of suicide attempts than men, as well as higher levels of suicidal ideation and passive methods of suicide (Aghanwa, 2004) meanwhile men have higher risk of completed suicide and active lethal methods (Beautrais, 2003). ii) Age, young and old adults have a high risk of completed suicides, especially with socioeconomical problems (Carroll-Ghosh, 2003; Sudak, 2005). iii) The range of suicides of people with mental illnesses is 47%-74% , especially major depression and psychotic disorders (Nock, Hwang, Sampson, & Kessler, 2010).

Oncologic patients, and especially those in palliative situation, may have high levels of distress and mental disorders during illness process, especially anxiety and depression (Holland & Alici, 2010; Diaz-Frutos, Baca-García, García-Foncillas & López-Castroman, 2016). The prevalence of depression and anxiety in oncologic patients are 50% and 40%, respectively (Chochinov, 2001; Massie, 2004; Mitchell et al., 2011; Walker et al., 2014). However, around 10% of oncologic patients are referred to mental health professionals, hence the undermining of psychological problems may increase the risk of suicide behaviors (Holland & Alici, 2010; Weinberger, Bruce, Roth, Breitbart, & Nelson, 2011). There is a high risk of suicidal behaviors in oncologic patients, for instance, suicidal ideation is ranged around 10%-40% and completed suicides are twice than in the general population (Misono, Weiss, Fann, Redman, & Yueh, 2008). Other relevant risk factors are substance abuse (Botega et al., 2010; Passik & Theobald, 2000), bipolar disorders, psychotic disorders and personality disorders that may affect the adherence to treatments and survival of the patients (Chang et al., 2014; Miovic & Block, 2007; Tseng, Chang, Liao, Chen, & Lee, 2010) and the distress or psychological problems after surviving the cancer (Lu et al., 2013; Recklitis, Diller, Li, Najita, , Robinson, & Zeltzer, 2010). This review aims at exploring the current literature to address the reported incidence and rates of suicide behaviors in cancer patients

geographically. Moreover, this paper focus on identified risk factors related to suicide behaviors and cancer to overcome previous limitations (Robson, et al. 2010).

Methods

Our search strategy included the following databases Medline, Pubmed, PsycInfo, Web of Science and ISOC/CISNE (Spanish databases) searched between January 2004 and April 2015, using keywords (Spanish-English): “cáncer-cancer”, “suicidio-suicide”, “ideación suicida-suicide ideation”, “intento suicida-suicide attempt”, “conductas suicidas-suicidal behaviors”, we did not exclude any age or type of cancer or suicide behavior. Search results were merged and duplicate studies removed to produce one set of results with 823 articles. The abstracts of these 823 articles were reviewed for their relevance to the current review. This produced 215 articles for review, 68 of which met the inclusion criteria: papers within the specified 11-year period, written in English or Spanish, the population of study was oncologic patient, the subject of study was completed suicide, suicide attempt or suicidal ideation risk, the sample size was greater than 10 and 1 or more of the variables associated with cancer and suicide such as gender, age, type, site of cancer, risk factors including psychological and clinical (time of diagnosis, treatment and prognosis), and country of origin.

Results

Major findings were completed suicides and suicidal ideation and the following risk factors: country, type of tumor, gender, age, depression, time from diagnosis, time of hospitalization, and other sociodemographic and clinical variables (employment, education, religion...). Following, we have included the percentage of papers by every country and the incidence/prevalence of suicide behaviors in each country. Although the methodology and study population vary greatly, we present data from the reviewed papers in order of relevance in the text and year in the tables.

Completed suicide in oncologic patients

This review shows that 34.9% of the articles were from the USA, 44.2% Europe, 11.6% Asia and 2.3% Iberoamerica (Table 1). The reported incidence of suicide in the USA was 31.4 every 100,000 especially during the first 5 years after diagnosis (Fang, Keating, Mucci, Adami, Stampfer, Valdimarsdóttir, & Fall, 2010; Johnson et al., 2012;

Ward et al., 2013). In Canada, a high risk of suicide was found in the first three months after diagnosis (Chung & Lin, 2010; Lin, Wu, & Lee, 2009) as well as in Taiwan (Chung & Lin, 2010; Lin et al., 2009). Especially high levels of completed suicide in oncologic patients have been found in South Korea during the first year of diagnosis (Ahn et al., 2010). In Europe, the estimated rates vary between 1.3 and 16 depending on origin, type of tumor and time after diagnosis (Fall et al., 2009; Fang, Fall, Mittleman, Sparén, Ye, Adami, & Valdimarsdóttir, 2012; Yousaf, Christensen, Engholm, & Storm, 2005). Scandinavian countries, especially Sweden have the highest prevalence in Europe (Fang et al., 2012).

Table 1. Completed suicide in oncologic patients

Author/year	Participant /country	Stimated risk of completed suicide (OR)	Risk factors (OR)
Hem, Loge, Haldorsen, & Ekeberg, 2004	589 (Norway)	SMR=1.6 (1.4-1.7) men SMR= 1.4 (1.2-1.6) women	Respiratory tumors in Men (SMR=4.1 (3.0-5.5) Oral & pharynx in Women SMR=3.7 (1.4- 8.0) Breast after 5 years (SMR=1.8 (1.3-2.5) Single First month after diagnosis
Miccinesi, Crocetti, Benvenuti, & Paci, 2004	90,197 (Italy)	SMR= 1.85 (1995-1999)	First year after diagnosis Age ≥ 75 years
Björkenstam, Edberg, Ayoubi, & Rosén, 2005	1,031,919 (Sweden)	Male SMR= 2.5 in 1965-74 SMR= 1.5 in 1985-94. Female SMR= 2.9 in 1965-74 SMR= 2.3 in 1985-94.	Women, Severity, tumors: Pancreas, Esophagus, Lung, Biliary. In fact, a slightly higher rate for women was observed for 1985-94 than for 1975-84.
Llorente et al., 2005	667 (USA)	Men SMR= 4.24	First 6 months, depression, doctor visit 1 month before suicide,
Yousaf et al. 2005	564,508 (Denmark)	SMR=1.7 (1.6-1.8) men SMR=1.4(1.3-1.5) women	Firs 3 months Men RR= 2.4 (1.9-3.1) First year Women RR= 2.0 (1.6-2.7) Bad prognosis, breast and respiratory

			tumor
Christensen, Yousaf, Engholm, & Storm, 2006	91,310 (Denmark)	SMR= 1.0 (0.9-1.2) men SMR= 1.3 (1.1-1.6) women	1 & 3 year SMR=1.5 (1.0-2.2) Age (0-49) SMR=1.2 (0.7-2.0)
Schairer et al., 2006	723,810 (USA)	SMR =1.37 (1.28-1.47)	25 years after diagnosis SMR=1.4 (0.8-2.1) Age (50-59) SMR=1.5 (1.3-1.7) Black SMR= 2.9 (1.4-5.2)
Kendal, 2007	1,316,762 (USA)	OR=6.2 (5.4-7.1) men	Colon-rectal Women HR=0.02 (0.01-0.04) Prostate HR=0.18 (0.16-0.19) Head & neck HR=0.3 (0.3-0.4) Leukemia HR=0.1 (0.08-0.2) Metastasis men HR=2.84 (2.49-3.24) Diagnosis time HR=1.03 (1.02-1.03) Problem surgery HR=3.0 (1.3-6.8) Age HR= 1.03 (1.02-1.03)
Zebrack, Ell, & Smith, 2007	35,814 (USA)	SMR=11 (7.8-15.3)	Age 10-14 years SMR=12.9 (5.6-25.4) 15-20 years SMR=12.1 (7.7-17.9)
Dormer, McCaul, & Kristjanson, 2008	121,533 (Australia)	SMR=1.7 (1.4-2.1) men SMR=1.2 (0.8-1.9) women SMR=1.6 (1.4-1.9) both	First 3 months SMR=5.8 (3.9-8.5) Esophagus, tongue, pharynx, stomach, lung, breast, ovary, ...SMR=3.4 (2.5-4.6)
Miller, Mogun, Azrael, Hempstead, & Solomon, 2008	1,408 (USA)	OR= 2.3 (1.1-4.8)	Mental disorder OR=2.3 (1.3-4.2) Anxiety & personality OR=2.2 (1.3-3.6) Antidepressants OR=2.0 (1.2-3.2) Opioids OR=1.6 (1.0-2.5) Psychiatric comorbidity OR=1.1 (1.0-1.2)
Misono, et al. 2008	3,594,750 (USA)	SMR= 1.88 (1.83-1.93)	Men, White, single, advanced cancer Age (70-74) SMR= 2.5 (2.3- 2.6) Lung SMR=5.74 (5.3-6.2) Stomach SMR=4.7 (3.8-5.7)

			Oral & Pharynx SMR=3.7 (3.2-4.2) Larynx SMR=2.83 (2.3-3.4) After 5 years diagnosis SMR=2.4 (2.3-2.5)
Fall et al., 2009	168,584 (Sweden)	RR=2.6 (2.1-3.0)	After first week RR=8.4 (1.9-22.7) Age 65-74 years RR=2.6 (2.0-3.4) ≥75 years RR=2.5 (1.8-3.4)
Lin, et al., 2009	368,643 (Taiwan)	HR=1.1 (0.8-1.5) men	Unemployed, non-hospitalized, Hospital visits ≥3 HR=0.40(0.29-0.56) Age (45-60) HR= 1.1 (0.7-1.7)
Robinson, Renshaw, Okello, Møller, & Davies, 2009	417,572 (UK)	SMR= 1.45 (1.20-1.73) men SMR= 1.19 (0.88- 1.57) women	First year after diagnosis: Men SMR= 2.4 (1.8-3.1) Women SMR= 1.4 (0.8-2.3) Cancer types-gender Men SMR 2.7 (1.7-4.0) Women SMR 2.2 (0.8-4.7) Age (> 75) SMR=1.6 (0.4- 6.2)
Bill-Axelsson et al., 2010	77,439 (Sweden)	SMR=1.5 (1.3-1.8)	1 & 2 year SMR=2.2 (1.5-3.0) Advanced cancer SMR: 2.2; 95% CI, 1.6–2.9 Metastasis SMR=2.1 (1.2-3.6) Age ≥75 years SMR=1.57 (1.19-2.03) PSA ≥ 100 Low income SMR=1.72 (1.35-2.17)
Ahn et al. 2010	816,295 (South Korea)	SMR=2.1 (1.9-2.2) men SMR=1.9 (1.7-2.0) women SMR=2.0 (1.9-2.1) both	First year SMR=3.45 (3.2-3.7) Pancreas Men SMR=6.01 (4.3-8.3) Lung Women SMR=3.55 (2.5-4.9) Single RR= 1.44 (1.3-1.6) Unemployed RR= 1.4 (1.3-1.5) Low education RR=1.5 (1.3-1.8)
Conwell et al., 2010	86 (USA)	OR=4.4 (1.2-22.2)	Cancer diagnosis

Chung & Lin. 2010	368,643 (Taiwan)		Unemployed (p<.001) Low income (p<.005) Age ≥ 65 years Oral and respiratory tumors
Fang et al., 2010	168,584 (USA)	SMR = 1.9 (1.4-2.6)	3 months after diagnosis SMR = 1.9 (1.4-2.6) PSA SMR=2.4 (1.2-4.3)-3.2 (2.0-4.8) White SMR=2.2 (1.6-3.0) Age ≥80 SMR=2.4 (1.3-4.1) Single SMR=3.0 (1.9-4.6)
Tseng et al., 2010	672 (Taiwan)	OR=1.8 (0.7-4.6)	Psychiatric comorbidity first month OR=1.8 (0.7-4.6) Psychiatric comorbidity first year OR= 2.5 (1.2-5.3)
Mahdi et al., 2011	252,235 (USA)	SMR= 1.4 (1.2-1.7)	Single SMR=3.1 (1.9-4.9) White SMR= 2.8 (1.9-3.9) Ovary cancer SMR= 2.8(2.0-3.8) Advanced cancer HR=2.6 (1.6-4.2) First year HR=1.6 (1.0-2.6)
Turaga, Malafa, Jacobsen, Schell, & Sarr, 2011	36,221 (USA)	SMR=10.8 (9.2-12.7) both OR=13.5 (3.2-56.9) men OR= 2.5 (1.0-6.5) women	Age ≥60 OR= 2.2 (0.7-6.5) Surgery OR=2.5 (1.0-6.4) Married OR=0.3 (0.1-0.6)
Alanee & Russo, 2012	23,381 (USA)	SMR=1.2 (1.1-2.1)	Age < 30 HR=1.2 (0.5-3.1) stage II HR=0.5 (0.1-2.1), stage III HR=0.6 (0.1-2.4)
Crocetti et al., 2011	136,105 (Italy)	SMR= 1.47	Bad prognosis (SMR=2.27) First year SMR=2.87) Age (55-64 years) SMR=2.27
Fang et al. 2012	534,154	OR=2.6 (2.2-3.1) both	First week after diagnosis RR=12.6 (8.6-

	(Sweden)	RR=3.2 (2.8–3.7) men RR=2.5 (1.9-3.2) women	17.8) Lung RR=12.3 (7.4-18.9) Esophagus, liver, pancreas RR= 16.0 (9.2-25.5) Age (65-74) RR= 3.7 (2.9-4.5) Psychiatric history RR= 1.7 (1.3-2.2)
Johnson, Garlow, Brawley, & Master, 2012	3,678,868 (USA)	One in three (701 of the patients) who committed suicide in the first year did so within 1 month of diagnosis.	0.2% (5875 patients) committed suicide, 36% (2111 patients) within 1 year of diagnosis.
Kendal & Kendal, 2012	4,449,957 (Canada)	HR=6.603 (5.997–7.270) men	Age HR=1.017 [1.015-1.018] Head & Neck HR=0.9 (0.8-1.1) Mesenchymal HR= 1.0 (0.8-1.3) Respiratory tumors 1.2 (0.97-1.35)
Nakash, Barchana, Liphshitz, Keinan-Boker, & Levav, 2012	Europe, America, Africa & Asia Israel	SIR=1.9 (1.5-2.2)	Americans and europeans (40-64years) SIR=3.5 (2.1-5.0) women SIR=2.2 (1.2-3.1) men American and european men ≥65 years SIR=1.9 (1.5-2.2)
Nakash, Liphshitz, Keinan Boker, & Levav, 2013	Israel (200)	men: (0.90, 95% CI 0.60–1.19) women: (0.95, 95% CI 0.55–1.37)	Jewish-Israelis of European origin Holocaust men: (0.90, 95% CI 0.60–1.19) women: (0.95, 95% CI 0.55–1.37)
Carlsson et al., 2013	105,736 (Sweden)	RR=6.5 (4.0-10)	Metastasis RR=10 (5.1–21) men RR= 5.2 (2.3-12) Age ≥75 RR=7.8 (3.7-16) Single RR= 9.0 (3.1-26) Socioeconomic level RR=8.1 (3.7-18) 6 months after diagnosis RR=6.5 (4.0-10) States III-IV RR=9.1 (4.9-17) PSA ≥100

Lu et al. 2013	7,860, 629 (Sweden)	RR= 1.6 (1.0–2.4)	First year after diagnosis RR=4.0 (1.6-8.1) Cervical and Brain tumors
Panczak et al., 2013	7,280,246 (Switzerland)		Religion
Smailyte et al., 2013	215 (Lithuania)	SMR=1.43(1.23-1.66) men SMR=1.32(0.95-1.80) women	First year after diagnosis SMR=1.12 (0.93-1.34) Low education Men SMR=2.03 (1.62-2.52) Age (60-69) SMR= 1.72 (1.35-2.17) Divorced SMR=2.84 (1.55-4.77) Widow SMR=1.94 (0.71-4.21) Esophagus SMR=7.07 (2.29-16.50) Hematopoietic SMR=3.19 (1.04-7.46) Colon-rectum SMR 3.15 (1.36-6.20)
Ward, Roncancio, & Plaxe, 2013	350,962 (USA)	RR=1.3 (1.1-1.5)	White, married, first 4 years diagnosis Gynecologic 30%
Cole, Bowling, Patetta, & Blazer, 2014	217 (USA)	OR=17.2 (10.9-27.0) men OR=2.6 (1.8-3.7) both	Age \geq 71 OR=1.3 (0.9-1.9) White OR= 9.7 (6.1-15.5) Low social support OR=0.3 (0.2-0.4) Stressful events OR=2.8 (2.0-3.9)
De la Grandmaison, Watier, Cavard, & Charlier, 2014	232 (France)	OR=2.4 (1.1-5.4)	Men, thyroid, prostate
Mohammadi et al., 2014	46,309 (Sweden)	IRR=2.96 (1.6-5.5) women IRR=1.8 (1.3-2.6) men IRR=1.9 (1.4-2.5) both	Myeloma IRR=3.5 (2.1-6.0) Linfoma IRR=1.9 (1.3-2.7) Migrants
Yamauchi et al., 2014	102,843 (Japan)	RR=1.7 (1.2-2.6) men RR=2.1 (1.1-4.2) women	Age (40-64) RR=1.9 (1.3-2.8) First year RR= 23.9 (13.8-41.6) Located tumor RR=2.3 (1.3-3.9)

Bolton et al., 2015	1,2 millones (Canada)	OR=1.5 (1.2-2.0)	First 90 days AOR=4.1(1.7-9.8) First year AOR=2.2 (1.1-4.3)
Hultcrantz et al., 2015	47,220 (Sweden)	HR=1.7 (1.3-2.2) men HR=2.1 (1.5-2.7) women HR=1.6 (1.2-2.1) both	Firs 3 years HR=1.9 (1.5-2.3) Myeloma multiple HR= 3.4 (2.3-5.0) Mental illness HR=23.3 (16.6-32.6) Age ≤ 69 HR=1.9 (1.5-2.5)
Vyssoki et al., 2015	915,303 (Austria)	SMR=1.41(1.35-1.47) men SMR= 1.24(1.15-1.34) women SMR=1.23(1.19-1.28) both	First year SMR=3.2(3.0-3.4) Lung SMR=3.9 (3.4-4.4) CNS SMR=2.8 (1.9-4.0) Esophagus, liver, pancreas SMR=2.6 (2.1-3.3)
IBEROAMERICA			
Fanger et al. 2010	675 (Brasil)	OR=4.8(3.3-6.7)	Depression OR=18.3(15.4-21.4)

SMR, standardized mortality ratio; OR, Odds ratios; HR, hazard ratio; RR, relative risk; SIR, standardized incidence ratios; IRR, incidence rate ratio

Accordingly, the type of cancer (lung, head, neck, oral, gynecologic and pancreas) is a risk factor of completed suicide (Dormer, et al., 2008; Kendal & Kendal, 2012; Mahdi et al., 2011; Misono et al., 2008). Males, under 18 or over 60, unemployed, without religious beliefs and without social support have higher risk of suicide and violent methods (Chun & Lin, 2010; Kendal, 2007; Lin, Wu, & Lee, 2009; Panczak et al., 2013; Robinson et al., 2009). The first year of diagnosis is extremely crucial (Dormer et al., 2008; Hem et al., 2004; Mahdi et al., 2011; Robinson et al., 2009) especially with advanced cancer (Alanee & Russo, 2012; Fang et al., 2012; Mahdi et al., 2011; Yamauchi et al. 2014) and other medical illnesses (Bolton, Walld, Chateau, Finlayson, & Sareen, 2015) or mental health illnesses (Fang et al., 2012; Fanger et al., 2010; Hultcrantz et al. 2015; Llorente et al., 2005; Miller et al., 2008; Tseng et al. 2010). Finally, the first month after diagnosis is a crucial moment for preventive propose or treatment (Holland & Alici, 2010; Miovic & Block, 2007; Misono, Weiss, Fann, Redman, & Yueh, 2008; Robson, Scrutton, Wilkinson, & MacLeod, 2010).

Suicidal ideation in oncologic patients

This review shows that 30.7% of the articles are from the USA, 42.3% Europe, 11.5% Asia and 7.7% Iberoamerica (Table 2). The prevalence of suicidal ideation in oncologic patients in the USA is around 17.7% (Schneider & Shenassa, 2008). In Europe between a 7%- 25% of the patients had suicidal ideation (Costantini et al., 2014; Eskelinen, Korhonen, Selander, & Ollonen, 2015; Jokinen, Mattsson, Lagergren, Lagergren, & Ljung, 2015; Spencer, Ray, Pirl, & Prigerson, 2012; Walker et al., 2008; Díaz-Frutos, Baca-García, Mahillo-Fernández, García-Foncillas & López-Castroman, 2015), in Mexico was around a 20% (Vargas-Mendoza, 2010) and Brasil a 7 % (Botega et al., 2010; Fanger et al., 2010).

Table 2. Suicidal ideation and suicide attempt in oncologic patients

Author/year	Participants/country	Risk factors
Recklitis, Lockwood, Rothwell, & Diller, 2006	226 (USA)	Leukemia, Depression, Hopelessness, Pain
Rasic, Belik, Bolton, Chochinov, & Sareen, 2008	863 (Canada)	Major depression OR=3.18 (1.69-5.96) Panic disorder OR=2.15 (1.22-3.77) Agoraphobia OR=5.94 (1.68-21.03) Social phobia OR=5.94 (1.68-21.03) Men OR=0.79 (0.63-1.00) Single OR=0.41 (0.22-0.75) Low education OR=1.39 (1.12-1.72)
Schneider, et al., 2008	980 (USA)	Married, mental illness, lung cancer, other physical illnesses
Walker et al., 2008	229 (UK)	Stress OR=11.2 (7.8-16.0) Pain OR=2.3 (1.6-3.2)
Akechi et al., 2010	5,343 (Japan)	Advanced cancer OR=1.96 (1.20-3.21).
Recklitis et al., 2010	9,126 (USA)	CNS OR=1.5 (1.2-1.9)

		Low education OR=2.4(1.9-3.1) Poor health OR=12.5 (8.0-19.5) Depression OR=20.4 (17.2-24.3) N Hospitalizations OR=2.8 (1.6-4.8)
Kim & Lee, 2010	138 (South Korea)	Existential vacuum Social support
Madeira, Albuquerque, Santos, Mendes, & Roque, 2011	130 (Portugal)	Major depression (76.9%; p=-.27) Panic disorder (46.2%; p=.001)
Spencer et al., 2012	718 (USA)	Panic OR= 3.2 (1.0-10.4) PTSD OR=4.0 (1.1-14.1). Mental illness OR=4.2 (2.3-7.6)
Lu et al. 2013	7,860,629 (Sweden)	Suicide attempt First year RR=2.3 (1.5-3.3) Cervical & brain tumors
Kim et al., 2013	284 (South Korea)	Allele neurotrophic factor OR=2.56 (1.10-5.93) Depression and anxiety (OR=1.4 (1.1-1.7) Alone OR=3.6 (1.1-7.8) Advanced cancer OR=2.0 (1.1-3.7)
Leung et al., 2013	4,822 (Canada)	Problematic making decision process in Men.
Balcı Şengül, Kaya, Şen, & Kaya, 2014	102 (Turkey)	Illness stage, Depression, Anxiety
Brinkman et al., 2013	9,128 (USA)	Poor health OR=1.9 (1.3-2.7) Depression OR=3.0 (2.1-4.1)
Choi et al., 2014	378 (South Korea)	Diarrhea OR= 2.8(1.4-5.6) Alopecia OR=2.8 (1.0-7.4) Fatigue OR= 2.3 (1.3-4.1)
Costantini et al., 2014	136 (Italy)	Lung cancer Hopelessness (t=2.54;p=.005) Depression (t=5.30; p=.001)

Fang et al., 2014	200 (Australia)	Desmoralization (t = 2.84, p < 0.01)
Lehulante & Fransson, 2014	3,512(Sweden)	QOL, Pain, Single
Mohammadi et al. 2014	46,309 (Sweden)	Suicide attempts Myeloma IRR=2.1(1.4-3.3) Linfoma IRR= 1.3 (1.1-1.7)
Trevino, Balboni, Zollfrank, Balboni, & Prigerson, 2014	603 (USA)	Non-religious OR=3.67 (1.84-7.32) Metastasis OR=1.80 (1.03-3.15) Negative religious adaptation OR=2.7 (1.2-5.7) Physical symptoms OR=1.2 (1.1-1.3) Major depression OR=3.4 (1.8- 6.7) PTSD OR=6.4 (2.3-17.3)
Trevino, Abbott, et al., 2014	93 (USA)	Physical symptoms OR=1.3 (1.0-1.5) Major depression OR=6.4 (1.6-25.6) PTSD OR=5.0 (1.0-24.6) Low therapeutic adherence OR=.26 (.07- .97)
Tanriverdi, Cuhadar, & Ciftci, 2014	105 (Turkey)	34.3% of patients thought of suicide
Eskelinen et al. 2015	115 (Finland)	Hopelessness, negativity, frustration
Jokinen et al. 2015	186,627 (Sweden)	Pharynx SIR=2.9 (2.2-3.8) LarinxSIR= 4.6 (3.3-6.3) Women Oral SIR=3.3 (2.6-4.1) Men Liver SIR=3.3 (2.7-3.8) Men.
(Hultcrantz et al. 2015	47,220 (Sweden)	Myeloma Multiple HR =3.4(2.3-5.0) Psychiatric history HR=23.3 (16.6-32.6) Age ≤ 69 years. HR=1.9 (1.5-2.5)
Zhou, Hu, Kantoff, & Recklitis, 2015	656 (USA)	Age OR= .98 seniors Etnia OR=1.47 Divorced OR= 1.58 No previous oncology visit 1 year OR=2.57

IBEROAMERICA

Vargas-Mendoza, 2010	10 (Mexico)	Higher suicide ideation in women
Botega et al. 2010	671 (Brasil)	Women OR= 5.6; 95% CI: 4.6–6. Age OR= 8.3 young patients Alcohol OR= 2.3 Tobacco OR= 1.8
Díaz-Frutos, et al. 2015	202 (Spain)	Depression OR=3.6 (1.3-11.7) Hopelessness OR=8.8 (3.4-25.9) Personality traits OR=.44 (.2-.96) Age >60 OR= 2.6 (1.2-6.0)

SMR, standardized mortality ratio; OR, Odds ratios; RR, relative risk; SIR, standardized incidence ratios; IRR, incidence rate ratio

As it happens with completed suicide, there is a higher risk of suicidal ideation in determined types of tumor such as brain, lung, pancreas, breast, prostate and liver (Aketchi, et al., 2010; Jokinen et al. 2015; Kendal & Kendal, 2015; Recklitis, et al. 2010; Spencer, et al. 2012). Age, gender, socioeconomic status, ... are as well as relevant risk factors that may undermine patients' alternatives for seeking or receiving treatment (Akechi et al., 2010; Kim, Jang, Stewart, Kim, Kim, Kang, et al., 2013; Lehuluante & Fransson, 2014; Rasic, Belik, Bolton, Chochinov & Sareen, 2008; Recklitis et al., 2010). Finally, mental health issues, such as depression and hopelessness (Díaz-Frutos, et al. 2015; Kim et al., 2013; Rasic et al., 2008; Spencer et al., 2012) or the worsening of quality of life (Lehuluante & Fransson, 2014; Fang, et al. 2014; Rasic et al., 2008; Recklitis et al., 2010) are high risk factors for suicidal ideation.

Discussion

Oncologic patients have approximately twice of risk of suicide behaviors than the general population, overall patients with lung, pancreas, prostate, stomach, breast and head and neck cancers (Misono et al., 2008; Robson et al., 2010). The completed suicide rates ranged from 1.2 to 16 from different countries, noticing most studies are from the USA and that Scandinavian and Eastern European countries show the highest levels of suicide behaviors. It is evident in the general population (Nock et al., 2008; Nock et al., 2010) and in oncologic patients, that most of the risk factors of suicide

behaviors are shared such as adult age, single status, low economical and educative status, psychiatric history or psychological factors (hopelessness, anxiety, depression, etc) or gender, affecting the making decisions process. Furthermore, that completed suicide is not always consecutive to suicidal ideation, when those risk factors are taken into consideration (Aketchi, et al. 2010; Kendal et al. 2007). For instance, when men used more aggressive methods to complete the act of suicide they do not always process thoughts or emotions (suicidal ideation) to make the decision, impulsivity may prevail (Chung & Lin, 2010). The review has established that the 5 years after cancer diagnosis, patients have more risk of suicide behaviors specially during the diagnosis and the last phase of life, advanced cancer patients may show high levels of psychological distress when receiving palliative treatments or lacking palliative care on different areas (Camidge et al., 2007). We found that most of the published data are from English speaking countries, USA and North European countries tend to produce more works and take higher interest on the health system costs and investments (García-Conde, Ibáñez-Guerra, & Durá-Ferrandis, 2008) hence the productivity of ibero-american countries is very limited, however social health systems and family support may be affecting their results (Palacios-Espinosa & Ocampo-Palacio, 2011). These findings highlight the need for professionals to have a better understanding of differences between countries so that they can identify the risk factors in different populations that are migrating. And to ensure quality in their treatments when considering the patients' needs.

The literature is not conclusive as to the effects of suicide behaviors in cancer. Many studies use collected data from national registers: Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER), and deaths or risk factors are not accurately classified. Because of the diverse methodology reviewed, it was not possible to use formal criteria to classify the assessment tools and how they affected the studies' results. Furthermore, we included studies with different sample sizes ranging from 10, to which is important caution when interpreting the data. We have found more data about marital status, socioeconomic factors, ethnicity and mental health issues than in previous studies (Robson, et al. 2010). Our data suggest that the experiences of oncologic patients deserves further attention, particularly to provide appropriate interventions. The role of psychological factors and comorbidity invites further investigation to elucidate the relationship between physical and psychiatric illnesses.

References

- Aghanwa, H. (2004). The determinants of attempted suicide in a general hospital setting in fiji islands: A gender-specific study. *General hospital psychiatry*, 26(1), 63-69.
- Ahn, E., Shin, D. W., Cho, S., Park, S., Won, Y., & Yun, Y. (2010). Suicide rates and risk factors among korean cancer patients, 1993-2005. *Cancer Epidemiology Biomarkers & Prevention*, 19(8), 2097-2105.
- Akechi, T, Okamura, H, Nakano, T, Akizuki, N, Okamura, M, Shimizu, K. & Uchitomi, Y. (2010). Gender differences in factors associated with suicidal ideation in major depression among cancer patients. *Psycho-oncology*, 19(4), 384-389. doi: 10.1002/pon.1587
- Alanee, S, & Russo, P. (2012). Suicide in men with testis cancer. *European journal of cancer care*, 21(6), 817-821.
- Balcı Şengül, M., Kaya, V., Şen, C., & Kaya, K. (2014). Association between suicidal ideation and behavior, and depression, anxiety, and perceived social support in cancer patients. *Medical science monitor: international medical journal of experimental and clinical research*, 20, 329.
- Beautrais, A. L. (2003). Suicide and serious suicide attempts in youth: A multiple-group comparison study. *The American Journal of Psychiatry*, 160(6), 1093-1099.
- Bill-Axelson, A., Garmo, H., Lambe, M., Bratt, O., Adolfsson, J., Nyberg, U. & Stattin, P. (2010). Suicide risk in men with prostate-specific antigen-detected early prostate cancer: A nationwide population-based cohort study from pcbase sweden. *European urology*, 57(3), 390-395.
- Björkenstam, C., Edberg, A., Ayoubi, S., & Rosén, M. (2005). Are cancer patients at higher suicide risk than the general population? A nationwide register study in sweden from 1965 to 1999. *Scandinavian journal of public health*, 33(3), 208-214.
- Bolton, JM, Walld, R, Chateau, D, Finlayson, G, & Sareen, J. (2015). Risk of suicide and suicide attempts associated with physical disorders: A population-based, balancing score-matched analysis. *Psychological medicine*, 45(03), 495-504.
- Botega, N. J., Soares de Azevedo, R. C., Mauro, M. L., Mitsushiro, G., Fanger, P., Lima, D. & Franco da Silva, Vi. (2010). Factors associated with suicide ideation among medically and surgically hospitalized patients. *General hospital psychiatry*, 32(4), 396-400. doi: 10.1016/j.genhosppsy.2010.02.004

- Brinkman, T., Liptak, C., Delaney, B., Chordas, C., Muriel, A., & Manley, P. (2013). Suicide ideation in pediatric and adult survivors of childhood brain tumors. *Journal of neuro-oncology*, 113(3), 425-432.
- Camidge, D.R., Stockton, D.L., Frame, S., Wood, R., Bain, M., & Bateman, D.N. (2007). Hospital admissions and deaths relating to deliberate self-harm and accidents within 5 years of a cancer diagnosis: A national study in Scotland, UK. *British journal of cancer*, 96(5), 752-757.
- Carlsson, S., Sandin, F., Fall, K., Lambe, M., Adolfsson, J., Stattin, P., & Bill-Axelsson, A. (2013). Risk of suicide in men with low-risk prostate cancer. *European Journal of Cancer*, 49(7), 1588-1599.
- Carroll-Ghosh, T., Victor, B.S., Bourgeois, J.A. . (2003). Suicide. In R. E. Hales, Yudofsky, S.C. (Ed.), *The American psychiatric publishing textbook of clinical psychiatry*. Washington D.C: American Psychiatric Publishing, Inc.
- Cole, T. B., Bowling, J. M., Patetta, M. J., & Blazer, D. G. (2014). Risk factors for suicide among older adults with cancer. *Aging & mental health*, 18(7), 854-860.
- Conwell, Y., Duberstein, P., Hirsch, J., Conner, K., Eberly, S., & Caine, E. (2010). Health status and suicide in the second half of life. *International journal of geriatric psychiatry*, 25(4), 371-379.
- Costantini, A., Pompili, M., Innamorati, M., Zezza, M. C., Di Carlo, A., Sher, L., & Girardi, P. (2014). Psychiatric pathology and suicide risk in patients with cancer. *Journal of psychosocial oncology*, 32(4), 383-395. doi: 10.1080/07347332.2014.917136
- Crocetti, E., Buzzoni, C., Caldarella, A., Intrieri, T., Manneschi, G., Sacchettini, C. & Miccinesi, G. (2011). [suicide mortality among cancer patients]. *Epidemiologia e prevenzione*, 36(2), 83-87.
- Chang, C., Hayes, R.D., Broadbent, M.T.M., Hotopf, M., Davies, E., Møller, H., & Stewart, R. (2014). A cohort study on mental disorders, stage of cancer at diagnosis and subsequent survival. *BMJ Open*, 4(1). doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2013-004295
- Chochinov, H. M. (2001). Depression in cancer patients. *The lancet oncology*, 2(8), 499-505.
- Choi, Y.N., Kim, Y., Yun, Y., Kim, S., Bae, J.M., Kim, Y. & Sohn, T.S. (2014). Suicide ideation in stomach cancer survivors and possible risk factors. *Supportive care in cancer*, 22(2), 331-337.

- Christensen, M., Yousaf, U., Engholm, G., & Storm, H. (2006). Increased suicide risk among danish women with non-melanoma skin cancer, 1971–1999. *European journal of cancer prevention*, 15(3), 266-268.
- Chung, K.H., & Lin, H.C. (2010). Methods of suicide among cancer patients: A nationwide population- based study. *Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior*, 40(2), 107-114.
- De la Grandmaison, G. L., Watier, L., Cavard, S., & Charlier, P. (2014). Are suicide rates higher in the cancer population? An investigation using forensic autopsy data. *Medical Hypotheses*, 82(1), 16-19. doi: 10.1016/j.mehy.2013.10.025
- Díaz-Frutos, D., Baca-García, E., Mahillo-Fernández, I. García-Foncillas, J. & López-Castroman, I. (2015). Suicide ideation among oncologic patients in a Spanish ward. *Psychology, Health and Medicine*, 21, 261-271. doi: 10.1080/13548506.2015.1058960
- Díaz-Frutos, D., Baca-García, E., I. García-Foncillas, J. & López-Castroman, I. (2016). Predictors of psychological distress in advanced cancer patients under palliative treatments. *European Journal of Cancer Care*. 25,608-615. Doi: 10.1111/ecc.12521
- Dormer, N., McCaul, K., & Kristjanson, L. (2008). Risk of suicide in cancer patients in western australia, 1981-2002. *Medical Journal of Australia*, 188(3), 140-143.
- Eskelinen, M., Korhonen, R., Selander, T., & Ollonen, P. (2015). Suicidal ideation versus hopelessness/helplessness in healthy individuals and in patients with benign breast disease and breast cancer: A prospective case–control study in finland. *Anticancer Research*, 35(6), 3543-3551.
- Fall, K., Fang, F., Mucci, L., Ye, W., Andrén, O., Johansson, J., . . . Stampfer, M. (2009). Immediate risk for cardiovascular events and suicide following a prostate cancer diagnosis: Prospective cohort study. *PLoS medicine*, 6(12), 1365.
- Fang, Chang, M., Chen, P., Lin, C., Chen, G., Lin, J. & Wu, C. H. (2014). A correlational study of suicidal ideation with psychological distress, depression, and demoralization in patients with cancer. *Supportive care in cancer*, 22(12), 3165-3174.
- Fang, F., Fall, K., Mittleman, M., Sparén, P., Ye, W., Adami, H., & Valdimarsdóttir, U. (2012). Suicide and cardiovascular death after a cancer diagnosis. *New England Journal of Medicine*, 366(14), 1310-1318.
- Fang, F., Keating, N., Mucci, L., Adami, H., Stampfer, M., Valdimarsdóttir, U., & Fall, K. (2010). Immediate risk of suicide and cardiovascular death after a prostate cancer diagnosis: Cohort study in the united states. *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*, 102(5), 307-314.

- Fanger, P., Cruz Soares de Azevedo, R., Fabrício Mauro, M.L., Dantas Lima, D., Gaspar, K.C., Franco da Silva, V., & Botega-Wagner, N.J. (2010). Depressão e comportamento suicida em pacientes oncológicos hospitalizados: Prevalência e fatores associados. *Revista da Associação Médica Brasileira*, 56(2), 173-178.
- García-Conde, A., Ibáñez-Guerra, E., & Durá-Ferrandis, E. (2008). Análisis del contenido de la revista "psycho-oncology": El desarrollo de la investigación en psicooncología. *Boletín de psicología*(92), 81-113.
- Hem, E., Loge, J., Haldorsen, T., & Ekeberg, Ø. (2004). Suicide risk in cancer patients from 1960 to 1999. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 22(20), 4209-4216.
- Holland, J. C., & Alici, Y. (2010). Management of distress in cancer patients. *Journal of Supportive Oncology*, 8(1), 4-12.
- Hoven, C. W., Mandell, D. J., & Bertolote, J. M. (2010). Prevention of mental ill-health and suicide: Public health perspectives. *European psychiatry : the journal of the Association of European Psychiatrists*, 25(5), 252-256.
- Hultcrantz, M., Svensson, T., Derolf, Å., Kristinsson, S., Lindqvist, E., Ekbom, A. & Björkholm, M. (2015). Incidence and risk factors for suicide and attempted suicide following a diagnosis of hematological malignancy. *Cancer medicine*, 4(1), 147-154.
- Johnson, T., Garlow, S., Brawley, O. W., & Master, V. A. (2012). Peak window of suicides occurs within the first month of diagnosis: Implications for clinical oncology. *Psycho-Oncology*, 21(4), 351-356.
- Jokinen, J., Mattsson, F., Lagergren, K., Lagergren, J., & Ljung, R. (2015). Suicide attempt and future risk of cancer: A nationwide cohort study in sweden. *Cancer Causes & Control*, 26(3), 501-509.
- Kendal, W. (2007). Suicide and cancer: A gender-comparative study. *Annals of oncology*, 18(2), 381-387.
- Kendal, W., & Kendal, W. (2012). Comparative risk factors for accidental and suicidal death in cancer patients. *Crisis*.
- Kim, J.M., Jang, J.E., Stewart, R., Kim, S., Kim, S., Kang, H.J. & Yoon, J.H. (2013). Determinants of suicidal ideation in patients with breast cancer. *Psycho- Oncology*, 22(12), 2848-2856.
- Kim, Y., & Lee, K. (2010). Relationship of social support and meaning of life to suicidal thoughts in cancer patients. *Journal of Korean Academy of Nursing*, 40(4), 524-532.

- Lehuluante, A., & Fransson, P. (2014). Are there specific health-related factors that can accentuate the risk of suicide among men with prostate cancer? *Supportive care in cancer*, 22(6), 1673-1678.
- Leung, Y., Li, M., Devins, G., Zimmermann, C., Rydall, A., Lo, C., & Rodin, G. (2013). Routine screening for suicidal intention in patients with cancer. *Psycho- Oncology*, 22(11), 2537-2545.
- Lin, H.C., Wu, C. H., & Lee, H. C. (2009). Risk factors for suicide following hospital discharge among cancer patients. *Psycho-Oncology*, 18(10), 1038-1044.
- Lu, D., Fall, K., Sparen, P., Ye, W., Adami, H. O., Valdimarsdottir, U., & Fang, F. (2013). Suicide and suicide attempt after a cancer diagnosis among young individuals. *Annals of oncology*, 24(12), 3112-3117. doi: 10.1093/annonc/mdt415
- Llorente, M., Burke, M., Gregory, G., Bosworth, H., Grambow, S., Horner, R . & Olsen, E. (2005). Prostate cancer: A significant risk factor for late-life suicide. *The American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry*, 13(3), 195-201.
- Madeira, N., Albuquerque, E., Santos, T., Mendes, A., & Roque, M. (2011). Death ideation in cancer patients: Contributing factors. *Journal of psychosocial oncology*, 29(6), 636-642.
- Mahdi, H., Swensen, R., Munkarah, A., Chiang, S., Luhrs, K., Lockhart, D., & Kumar, S. (2011). Suicide in women with gynecologic cancer. *Gynecologic oncology*, 122(2), 344-349.
- Malvezzi, M., Bertuccio, P., Levi, F., La Vecchia, C., & Negri, E. (2013). European cancer mortality predictions for the year 2013. *Annals of oncology*. doi: 10.1093/annonc/mdt010
- Massie, M. J. (2004). Prevalence of depression in patients with cancer. *Journal of National Cancer Institute Monographs*(32), 57-71. doi: 10.1093/jncimonographs/lgh014
- Miccinesi, G., Crocetti, E., Benvenuti, A., & Paci, E. (2004). Suicide mortality is decreasing among cancer patients in central Italy. *European Journal of Cancer*, 40(7), 1053-1057.
- Miller, M., Mogun, H., Azrael, D., Hempstead, K., & Solomon, D. (2008). Cancer and the risk of suicide in older Americans. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 26(29), 4720-4724.
- Miovic, M., & Block, S. (2007). Psychiatric disorders in advanced cancer. *Cancer*, 110(8), 1665-1676. doi: 10.1002/cncr.22980
- Misono, S., Weiss, N. S., Fann, J. R., Redman, M., & Yueh, B. (2008). Incidence of suicide in persons with cancer. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 26(29), 4731-4738. doi: 10.1200/jco.2007.13.8941

- Mitchell, A. J., Chan, M., Bhatti, H., Halton, M., Grassi, L., Johansen, C., & Meader, N. (2011). Prevalence of depression, anxiety, and adjustment disorder in oncological, haematological, and palliative-care settings: A meta-analysis of 94 interview-based studies. *Lancet Oncology*, 12(2), 160-174. doi: 10.1016/s1470-2045(11)70002-x
- Mohammadi, M., Moradi, T., Bottai, M., Reutfors, J., Cao, Y., & Smedby, K. (2014). Risk and predictors of attempted and completed suicide in patients with hematological malignancies. *Psycho- Oncology*, 23(11), 1276-1282.
- Nakash, O., Barchana, M., Liphshitz, I., Keinan-Boker, L., & Levav, I. (2012). The effect of cancer on suicide in ethnic groups with a differential suicide risk. *The European Journal of Public Health*, cks045.
- Nakash, O., Liphshitz, I., Keinan-Boker, L., & Levav, I. (2013). The effect of cancer on suicide among elderly holocaust survivors. *Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior*, 43(3), 290-295.
- Nock, M., Borges, G., Bromet, E., Alonso, J., Angermeyer, M., Beautrais, A. & Gluzman, S. (2008). Cross-national prevalence and risk factors for suicidal ideation, plans and attempts. *The British Journal of Psychiatry*, 192(2), 98-105.
- Nock, M., Hwang, I., Sampson, N., & Kessler, R. (2010). Mental disorders, comorbidity and suicidal behavior: Results from the national comorbidity survey replication. *Molecular psychiatry*, 15(8), 868-876.
- Palacios-Espinosa, X., & Ocampo-Palacio, J. G. (2011). Situación actual del conocimiento acerca del suicidio en las personas con cáncer. *Revista Ciencias de la Salud*, 9(2), 173-190.
- Panczak, R., Spoerri, A., Zwahlen, M., Bopp, M., Gutzwiller, F., & Egger, M. (2013). Religion and suicide in patients with mental illness or cancer. *Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior*, 43(2), 213-222.
- Passik, S. D., & Theobald, D. E. (2000). Managing addiction in advanced cancer patients: Why bother? *J Pain Symptom Manage*, 19(3), 229-234.
- Quill, T. E. (2008). Suicidal thoughts and actions in cancer patients: The time for exploration is now. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 26(29), 4705-4707. doi: 10.1200/jco.2008.18.3129
- Rasic, D. T., Belik, S.-L., Bolton, J.M., Chochinov, H. M., & Sareen, J. (2008). Cancer, mental disorders, suicidal ideation and attempts in a large community sample. *Psycho-Oncology*, 17(7), 660-667.

- Recklitis, Lockwood, R., Rothwell, M., & Diller, L. (2006). Suicidal ideation and attempts in adult survivors of childhood cancer. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 24(24), 3852-3857.
- Recklitis, C.J., Diller, L.R., Li, X, Najita, J, Robinson, L. L., & Zeltzer, L. (2010). Suicide ideation in adult survivors of childhood cancer: A report from the childhood cancer survivor study. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 28(4), 655-661. doi: 10.1200/jco.2009.22.8635
- Robinson, D., Renshaw, C., Okello, C., Møller, H., & Davies, E. (2009). Suicide in cancer patients in south east england from 1996 to 2005: A population-based study. *British journal of cancer*, 101(1), 198-201.
- Robson, A., Scrutton, F., Wilkinson, L., & MacLeod, F. (2010). The risk of suicide in cancer patients: A review of the literature. *Psychooncology*, 19(12), 1250-1258. doi: 10.1002/pon.1717
- Schairer, C., Brown, L., Chen, B., Howard, R., Lynch, C., Hall, P. & Kaijser, M. (2006). Suicide after breast cancer: An international population-based study of 723 810 women. *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*, 98(19), 1416-1419.
- Schneider, K. L. & Shenassa, E. (2008). Correlates of suicide ideation in a population-based sample of cancer patients. *Journal of psychosocial oncology*, 26(2), 49-62. doi: 10.1300/J077v26n02_04
- Skarstein, J., Aass, N., Fosså, S. D., Skovlund, E., & Dahl, A. A. (2000). Anxiety and depression in cancer patients: Relation between the hospital anxiety and depression scale and the european organization for research and treatment of cancer core quality of life questionnaire. *Journal of psychosomatic research*, 49(1).
- Smailyte, G., Jasilionis, D., Kaceniene, A., Krilaviciute, A., Ambrozaitiene, D., & Stankuniene, V. (2013). Suicides among cancer patients in lithuania: A population-based census-linked study. *Cancer epidemiology*, 37(5), 714-718. doi: 10.1016/j.canep.2013.05.009
- Spencer, R., Ray, A., Pirl, W., & Prigerson, H. (2012). Clinical correlates of suicidal thoughts in patients with advanced cancer. *The American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry*, 20(4), 327-336.
- Spoletini, I., Gianni, W., Caltagirone, C., Madaio, R., Repetto, L., & Spalletta, G. (2011). Suicide and cancer: Where do we go from here? *Critical Reviews in Oncology/Hematology*, 78(3), 206-219. doi: 10.1016/j.critrevonc.2010.05.005

- Sudak, HD. (2005). Suicide. In B. J. Sadock, Sadock, C.V.A. (Eds.), *Kaplan and sadock's comprehensive textbook of psychiatry* (8th Edition ed.). Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams and Wilkins.
- Tanriverdi, D., Cuhadar, D., & Ciftci, S. (2014). Does the impairment of functional life increase the probability of suicide in cancer patients? *Asian Pacific journal of cancer prevention: APJCP*, 15(21), 9549-9553.
- Torre, L. A, Bray, F., Siegel, R. L, Ferlay, J., Lortet- Tieulent, J., & Jemal, A. (2015). Global cancer statistics, 2012. *CA: a cancer journal for clinicians*, 65(2), 87-108.
- Trevino, K., Abbott, C., Fisch, M., Friedlander, R., Duberstein, P., & Prigerson, H. (2014). Patient-oncologist alliance as protection against suicidal ideation in young adults with advanced cancer. *Cancer*, 120(15), 2272-2281.
- Trevino, K., Balboni, M., Zollfrank, A., Balboni, T., & Prigerson, H. (2014). Negative religious coping as a correlate of suicidal ideation in patients with advanced cancer. *Psycho-Oncology*, 23(8), 936-945.
- Tseng, K-C, Chang, C-M., Liao, S-C., Chen, Y-Y., & Lee, M-B. (2010). Factors of early suicide after discharge: A national linkage study for suicide victims in taiwan. *Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior*, 40(4), 353-368.
- Turaga, K., Malafa, M., Jacobsen, P., Schell, M., & Sarr, M. (2011). Suicide in patients with pancreatic cancer. *Cancer*, 117(3), 642-647.
- Vargas-Mendoza, J. (2010). Evaluación de la ideación suicida en pacientes con cáncer sometidos a quimioterapia. *Centro Regional de Investigación en Psicología*, 4 (1), 19-23.
- Vyssoki, B., Gleiss, A., Rockett, I., Hackl, M., Leitner, B., Sonneck, G., & Kapusta, N. (2015). Suicide among 915,303 austrian cancer patients: Who is at risk? *Journal of affective disorders*, 175, 287-291.
- Walker, J., Hansen, C., Martin, P., Symeonides, S., Ramessur, R., Murray, G., & Sharpe, M. (2014). Prevalence, associations, and adequacy of treatment of major depression in patients with cancer: A cross-sectional analysis of routinely collected clinical data. *The Lancet Psychiatry*, 1(5), 343-350.
- Walker, J., Waters, R. A., Murray, G., Swanson, H., Hibberd, C. J., Rush, R. W. & Sharpe, M. (2008). Better off dead: Suicidal thoughts in cancer patients. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 26(29), 4725-4730. doi: 10.1200/jco.2007.11.8844

- Ward, K., Roncancio, A., & Plaxe, S. (2013). Women with gynecologic malignancies have a greater incidence of suicide than women with other cancer types. *Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior*, 43(1), 109-115.
- Weinberger, M. I., Bruce, M. L., Roth, A. J., Breitbart, W., & Nelson, C. J. (2011). Depression and barriers to mental health care in older cancer patients. *International journal of geriatric psychiatry*, 26(1), 21-26. doi: 10.1002/gps.2497
- Yamauchi, T., Inagaki, M., Yonemoto, N., Iwasaki, M., Inoue, M., Akechi, T. & Tsugane, S. (2014). Death by suicide and other externally caused injuries following a cancer diagnosis: The japan public health center- based prospective study. *Psycho- Oncology*, 23(9), 1034-1041.
- Yousaf, U., Christensen, M., Engholm, G., & Storm, H. (2005). Suicides among danish cancer patients 1971–1999. *British journal of cancer*, 92(6), 995-1000.
- Zebrack, B., Ell, K., & Smith, W. (2007). Suicide risk in childhood cancer survivors. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 25(6), 732-733.
- Zhou, E., Hu, J., Kantoff, P., & Recklitis, C. (2015). Identifying suicidal symptoms in prostate cancer survivors using brief self-report. *Journal of Cancer Survivorship*, 9(1), 59-67.

This article was downloaded by: [37.35.236.238]

On: 25 June 2015, At: 14:11

Publisher: Routledge

Informa Ltd Registered in England and Wales Registered Number: 1072954 Registered office: Mortimer House, 37-41 Mortimer Street, London W1T 3JH, UK



CrossMark

[Click for updates](#)

Psychology, Health & Medicine

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information:

<http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/cphm20>

Suicide ideation among oncologic patients in a Spanish ward

D. Diaz-Frutos^{ab}, E. Baca-Garcia^a, I. Mahillo-Fernandez^c, J. Garcia-Foncillas^b & J. Lopez-Castroman^{ade}

^a Department of Psychiatry, Fundación Jiménez Díaz Hospital, Autonoma University of Madrid (UAM), Madrid, Spain

^b Department of Oncology, Fundación Jiménez Díaz Hospital, Autonoma University of Madrid (UAM), Madrid, Spain

^c Department of Epidemiology, Fundación Jiménez Díaz Hospital, Autonoma University of Madrid (UAM), Madrid, Spain

^d Department of Emergency Psychiatry and Post-Acute Care, CHRU Montpellier, Montpellier, France

^e INSERM U1061, Montpellier, France

Published online: 25 Jun 2015.

To cite this article: D. Diaz-Frutos, E. Baca-Garcia, I. Mahillo-Fernandez, J. Garcia-Foncillas & J. Lopez-Castroman (2015): Suicide ideation among oncologic patients in a Spanish ward, *Psychology, Health & Medicine*, DOI: [10.1080/13548506.2015.1058960](https://doi.org/10.1080/13548506.2015.1058960)


To link to this article: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/13548506.2015.1058960>

PLEASE SCROLL DOWN FOR ARTICLE

Taylor & Francis makes every effort to ensure the accuracy of all the information (the "Content") contained in the publications on our platform. However, Taylor & Francis, our agents, and our licensors make no representations or warranties whatsoever as to the accuracy, completeness, or suitability for any purpose of the Content. Any opinions and views expressed in this publication are the opinions and views of the authors, and are not the views of or endorsed by Taylor & Francis. The accuracy of the Content should not be relied upon and should be independently verified with primary sources of information. Taylor and Francis shall not be liable for any losses, actions, claims, proceedings, demands, costs, expenses, damages, and other liabilities whatsoever or howsoever caused arising directly or indirectly in connection with, in relation to or arising out of the use of the Content.

This article may be used for research, teaching, and private study purposes. Any substantial or systematic reproduction, redistribution, reselling, loan, sub-licensing,

Suicide ideation among oncologic patients in a Spanish ward

D. Diaz-Frutos^{a,b,*} , E. Baca-Garcia^a , I. Mahillo-Fernandez^c, J. Garcia-Foncillas^b
and J. Lopez-Castroman^{a,d,e} 

^aDepartment of Psychiatry, Fundación Jiménez Díaz Hospital, Autonomía University of Madrid (UAM), Madrid, Spain; ^bDepartment of Oncology, Fundación Jiménez Díaz Hospital, Autonomía University of Madrid (UAM), Madrid, Spain; ^cDepartment of Epidemiology, Fundación Jiménez Díaz Hospital, Autonomía University of Madrid (UAM), Madrid, Spain; ^dDepartment of Emergency Psychiatry and Post-Acute Care, CHRU Montpellier, Montpellier, France; ^eINSERM U1061, Montpellier, France

(Received 1 January 2015; accepted 2 June 2015)

Oncologic patients are exposed to a higher risk of suicidal behaviors than the general population. In this study, we aim to examine the severity of suicidal ideation in a sample of oncologic patients considering different psychological and clinical features. We interviewed 202 inpatients receiving curative or palliative treatment in a medical oncology ward of a Spanish hospital during the period 2012–2014. A complete assessment of psychosocial factors, cancer diagnoses (lung, colon rectum, and genitourinary system), and suicidal behaviors were made during admission, including validated questionnaires about depression, anxiety, personality, quality of life, body image, life threatening events, hopelessness, and suicidal ideation. The characteristics of inpatients with high and low suicidal ideation were retrospectively compared. A logistic regression model was constructed to examine the relationship between the significant factors retained after the univariate analyses. One of every four patients ($n = 51$; 25.24%) presented high scores of suicidal ideation. Logistic regression analyses retained depression (OR = 3.55; 95% CI = 1.25–11.68; $p = .016$), hopelessness (OR = 8.78; 95% CI = 3.44–25.88; $p \leq .001$), personality (OR = .44; 95% CI = .2–.96; $p = .038$), and advanced age (OR = 2.60; 95% CI = 1.18–5.98; $p = .016$) as the main risk factors for high suicidal ideation. Suicidal ideation was frequent among oncologic patients. These patients should receive closer monitoring, especially, when old, retired, or severely depressed.

Keywords: psycho-oncology; suicidal ideation; depression; cancer; descriptive survey study

Introduction

Cancer and suicidal behavior are major public health issues and leading causes of death worldwide. In 2012, there were around 3.45 million new cancer cases and 1.5 million cancer-related deaths in Europe (Ferlay et al., 2012; Malvezzi, Bertuccio, Levi, La Vecchia, & Negri, 2013). Of them, 100,000 new diagnoses and 102,000 deaths were reported just in Spain (Sánchez et al., 2010). In the same year, there were nearly 160,000 suicides in Europe (Hoven, Mandell, & Bertolote, 2010). Spain, as other countries in the Mediterranean basin, presents a relatively low suicide risk, with 7.6 suicides

per 100.000 inhabitants (INE, 2014), and a lifetime prevalence of 3.67% for suicide ideation and 1.46% for suicide attempts in 2012 (Miret et al., 2014).

The risk of suicide among oncologic patients seems to double the risk observed in the general population with an odds ratio (OR) that ranges from 1.3 to 2.6 (Misono, Weiss, Fann, Redman, & Yueh, 2008; Robson, Scrutton, Wilkinson, & MacLeod, 2010). Oncologic patients may present an enhanced vulnerability to psychological issues and suicidal ideation. In hospitalized patients with cancer, Botega et al. (2010) estimated a 7.8% prevalence of suicidal ideation, and even higher rates of suicide attempts have been reported in one sample (Balci Sengul, Kaya, Sen, & Kaya, 2014), although the reported rates depend largely on the methodology. According to a review, the prevalence of suicidal ideation in oncologic patients ranged from .8 to 71.4% (Robson et al., 2010).

The psychological distress associated with cancer may trigger suicidal acts especially if associated with a comorbid mental disorder (Kisely, Crowe, & Lawrence, 2013; Reiche, Odebrecht Vargas Nunes, & Kaminami Morimoto, 2004; Tas et al., 2012). Oncologic patients with distress often consult their physicians about their psychological state. However, clinicians tend to consider distress symptoms as a normal reaction to illness. Thus, the estimated rate of referral to mental health consultation ranges between 10 and 33% of cancer patients turn to mental health services depending on the study (De la Grandmaison, Watier, Cavard, & Charlier, 2014; Holland & Alici, 2010; Weinberger, Bruce, Roth, Breitbart, & Nelson, 2011).

The most common mental disorders among oncologic patients are anxiety and affective disorders (Balci Sengul et al., 2014; Chochinov, 2001; Massie, 2004). For instance, the reported prevalence of major depression may reach 38% (58% considering a broad spectrum of depressive disorders) (Massie, 2004; Weinberger et al., 2011) and anxiety disorders may be present in 10–30% in oncologic patients (Balci Sengul et al., 2014; Holland & Alici, 2010). High rates of mental disorders have also been reported in palliative care (Mitchell et al., 2011; Weinberger et al., 2011). Of note, few studies have examined the prevalence of alcohol or substance abuse (Botega et al., 2010; Passik & Theobald, 2000), personality disorders or schizophrenia in oncologic patients, but there seems to be no difference with the general population (Chang et al., 2014; Miovic & Block, 2007).

Other factors have been associated with suicidal ideation in oncologic patients: (i) hopelessness, a powerful predictor of suicide that is related to depression (Breitbart et al., 2000; Gil & Gilbar, 2001), (ii) sociodemographic factors (Robson et al., 2010), such as lack of social support, unemployment, low income, being alone, advanced age, and being female (Akechi et al., 2010; Kendal, 2007), and (iii) medical factors, such as time since diagnosis, extension of the disease, type of tumor, suffering from other medical conditions (Quill, 2008; Spoletini et al., 2011), and survival from childhood cancer (Lu et al., 2013; Recklitis et al., 2010). In this study, we aim to assess the characteristics associated with high levels of suicidal ideation among oncologic patients using a research protocol composed of eight psychological instruments for the screening and early identification of bio–psycho–social factors related to the risk of suicidal behaviors. We hypothesize that poor social performance, features of severity of the oncological disease and high psychological suffering will be associated to higher suicidal ideation.

Methods

Participants

A total of 202 inpatients were recruited in a medical oncology ward from January 2012 to January 2014 at Fundacion Jimenez Diaz hospital, Madrid, Spain. Most patients

recruited had advanced cancer and were receiving palliative care (78.2%). Inclusion criteria were: (i) to present a primary tumor located in lung, colon rectum, or genitourinary area, which are the most frequent types of cancer in Spanish population (Sánchez et al., 2010); (ii) to be 18–85 years old; and, (iii) to sign a written informed consent before participating in the study. Twenty-seven patients were contacted, but refused to participate due to exclusion criteria: (i) Denial of participation and (ii) incapability to participate (advanced stage of the illness, family denial, etc).

Measures

- (i) The Scale for Suicide Ideation (SSI) (Beck, Kovacs, & Weissman, 1979), which evaluates ideas of suicide or death in clinical settings through 21 items. Each item response is graded according to suicidal intensity on a three-point scale ranging from 0 to 2. Given that oncologic patients were not necessarily suicidal, we selected only five items that assess the main dimensions of suicidal ideas (desire to live; desire to die; reasons to live or to die; suicide ideation and previous attempts). All patients completed these five items. The remaining items of the SSI were not applicable in the absence of previous suicidal behaviors.
- (ii) The international personality disorder evaluation screening questionnaire (IPDE) (Loranger, Sartorius, Andreoli, et al., 1994) examines global traits of personality disorders according to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders with 77- True/False self-report items.
- (iii) The third version of the core quality of life questionnaire (QLQ-C-30) (Aaronson et al., 1993) measures physical, psychological, and social functions. Each item is scored in one of four categories (from 'not at all' to 'very much'), with the exception of Global QLQ (from 1 'very poor' to 7 'excellent'), the QLQ total scores vary from 0 to 100.
- (iv) The Body Image Scale (BIS) (Hopwood, Fletcher, Lee, & Al Ghazal, 2001) assesses body image in oncologic patients with 10-items, total score ranges from 0 to 30.
- (v) The Beck Depression Inventory (BDI-II) (Beck, Steer and Brown, 1996) measures the severity of depressive symptoms with 21 items scored from 0 to 3. The standard cut-offs define minimal depression (0–9), moderate depression (10–29), and severe depression (30–63). A BDI-II assessment includes questioning over somatic symptoms. Thus, to avoid an overestimation of depression rates in cancer patients, we added Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale (HADS) as a second measure of depression.
- (vi) The HADS (Zigmond & Snaith, 1983) evaluates the levels of anxiety and depression that a patient is experiencing through 14 items. Half of the items relate to anxiety and the other half relate to depression. Each item on the questionnaire is scored from 0 to 3. Specific anxiety diagnoses were not elicited.
- (vii) The Beck Hopelessness Scale (BHS) (Beck, Weissman, Lester, & Trexler, 1974) examines thoughts and beliefs about the future through 20 true-false items.
- (viii) The Life Threatening Events (LTE) (Brugha & Cragg, 1990) examines recent stressful life events during the last year in 12 major categories. Positive responses score one point.

Procedure

The suicide assessment procedure was based on the Columbia Suicide History Form (Mann, Waternaux, Haas, & Malone, 1999). The procedure is a semi-structured interview with questionnaires to collect information about sociodemographic features, characteristics of the suicide behaviors and essential psychological characteristics on oncologic patients. The local research ethics committee approved the study.

All questionnaires have been validated for their use on Spanish population: SSI (Comeche, Diaz, & Vallejo, 1995), IPDE (López-Ibor, Pérez Urdániz, & Rubio Larrosa, 1996), QLQ-C-30 (Arraras et al., 2002), BIS (Gomez-Campelo, Bragado-Alvarez, Hernandez-Lloreda, & Sanchez-Bernardos, 2014) BDI-II (Sanz, García-Vera, Espinosa, Fortún, & Vázquez, 2005), HADS (Herrero et al., 2003), BHS (Aguilar García-Iturrospe et al., 1995), and LTE (García-Nieto et al., 2012).

Statistical analyses

In order to investigate the factors associated with high levels of suicidal ideation among oncologic patients, we established a cut-off for suicidal ideation using the highest tertile in SSI scores and divided the sample in two groups (high vs. low suicidal ideation). Univariate comparisons of sociodemographic features, clinical variables, and assessment scores between these two groups were made using Chi-Square test. We tested the association between the assessment instruments and the SSI using Cronbach's alpha. We predicted statistical power calculations using Cohen's d ($1-B > .95$ is very high; $1-B \leq .5$ is low; and $1-B = .8$ is moderate-high). Finally, a logistic regression model was built to estimate adjusted ORs for high suicidal ideation using demographic, clinical, and psychological variables associated with p -values $\leq .05$ in the univariate analysis. We established a cut-off for the psychological variables associated to the regression model (BHS, BDI, and IPDE) using the highest tertile and obtaining higher and lower scores. Analyses were performed using SPSS 17.0.

Results

Sample description

The most relevant sociodemographic features can be found in Table 1. Most patients were female ($n = 115$; 56.9%), with high educational level ($n = 125$; 61.9%), in couple ($n = 108$; 53.5%), receiving palliative care ($n = 158$, 78.2%), retired ($n = 121$; 59.9%), and earning more than 1500 euros ($n = 114$; 56.4%). Mean age was 61.7 ± 12.9 years. Types of cancer included: lung ($n = 62$; 30.7%), colon rectum ($n = 51$; 25.2%), male genitourinary system, ($n = 23$; 11.4%) and female genitourinary system ($n = 66$; 32.7%). All assessment instruments were highly correlated with the SSI ($p \leq .001$) with the exception of LTE ($p = .66$).

Features associated to high suicidal ideation

Hereon, only significant associations between clinical features and high suicidal ideation will be shown (see details in Table 1). Regarding demographic features, high suicidal ideation was associated only with advanced age, over 60 years ($\chi^2 = 5.9$; $df = 1$; $p = .01$; $1-B = .52$), and retirement ($\chi^2 = 16.9$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$). Clinically, subjects with high suicidal ideation were more likely to be under palliative care ($\chi^2 = 5.74$;

Table 1. Characteristics of the sample.

Variables	Total (n = 202)	SSI < 3 (n = 151) n (%)	SSI ≥ 3 (n = 51)	Statistics		
				F/ χ^2	df	P
<i>Demographic</i>						
Age (>60)	117 (57.9%)	80 (53%)	37 (72.5%)	5.9	1	.014
Sex, female	115 (56.9%)	90 (59.6%)	25 (49%)	1.74	1	.18
Marital status, in couple	108 (53.5%)	80 (53%)	28 (54.9%)	.57	1	.81
Educational level, high	125 (61.9%)	97 (64.2%)	28 (54.9%)	1.4	1	.23
Working status, retired	121 (59.9%)	78 (51.7%)	43 (84.3%)	16.9	1	≤.001
Income, >1500 €/month	114 (56.4%)	87 (57.6%)	27 (52.9%)	.33	1	.56
<i>Clinical</i>						
Type of cancer						
Lung	62 (30.7%)	44 (29.1%)	18 (35.3%)	.67	1	.41
Colon rectum	51 (25.2%)	42 (27.8%)	9 (17.6%)	2.08	1	.14
Male genitourinary	23 (11.4%)	16 (10.6%)	7 (13.7%)	.37	1	.54
Female genitourinary	66 (32.7%)	49 (32.5%)	17 (33.3%)	.01	1	.9
Therapeutic approach, palliative	158 (78.2%)	112 (74.2%)	46 (90.2%)	5.74	1	.017
<i>Assessment scales</i>						
LTE (≥4)	88 (43.6%)	71 (47%)	17 (33.3%)	2.9	1	.08
BHS (≥9)	98 (48.5%)	53 (35.1%)	45 (88.2%)	43.09	1	≤.001
BDI-II (≥29)	39 (19.3%)	12 (7.9%)	27 (52.9%)	49.54	1	≤.001
HADS-A (≥13)	55 (27.2%)	32 (21.2%)	23 (45.1%)	10.99	1	≤.001
HADS-D(≥13)	76 (37.6%)	36 (23.8%)	40 (78.4%)	48.41	1	≤.001
BIS (≥11)	54 (26.7%)	35 (23.2%)	19 (37.3%)	3.8	1	.05
Functioning QLQ-C-30						
Physical (≥16)	59 (29.2%)	32 (21.2%)	27 (52.9%)	18.58	1	≤.001
Role (≥6)	110 (54.5%)	70 (46.4%)	40 (78.4%)	15.81	1	≤.001
Cognitive (≥5)	60 (29.7%)	31 (20.5%)	29 (56.9%)	24.10	1	≤.001
Emotional (≥11)	57 (28.2%)	26 (17.2%)	31 (60.8%)	35.72	1	≤.001
Social (≥6)	104 (51.5%)	69 (45.7%)	35 (68.6%)	8.02	1	.006
Global (≥9)	145 (71.8%)	115 (76.2%)	21 (41.2%)	21.2	1	≤.001
IPDE (≥7)	101 (50%)	83 (55%)	18 (35.3%)	5.9	1	.01
Paranoid	168 (83.2%)	129 (85.43%)	39 (76.47%)	2.18	1	.13
Schizoid	119 (58.9%)	97 (64.23%)	22 (43.13%)	7.01	1	.008
Schizotypal	180 (89.1%)	141 (93.37%)	39 (76.47%)	11.22	1	≤.001
Antisocial	198 (98%)	149 (98.67%)	49 (96.07%)	1.32	1	.25
Borderline	148 (73.3%)	117 (77.48%)	31 (60.78%)	5.42	1	.02
Histrionic	123 (60.9%)	90 (59.6%)	33 (64.7%)	.41	1	.52
Narcissistic	146 (72.3%)	105 (59.53%)	41 (80.39%)	2.24	1	.13
Avoidant	150 (74.3%)	118 (78.14%)	32 (62.74%)	4.73	1	.03
Dependent	130 (64.4%)	110 (72.84%)	20 (39.21%)	18.79	1	≤.001
Obsessive-compulsive	110 (54.5%)	84 (55.62%)	26 (50.98%)	.33	1	.56

Notes: χ^2 test and data are presented as n(%). Assessment instruments: LTE = Life of threatening experiences; SSI = Scale for suicide ideation; BHS = Beck Hopelessness Scale; BDI = Beck Depression Inventory; HADS-A = Hospital Anxiety Scale; HADS-D = Hospital Depression Scale; BIS = Body Image Scale; QLQ-C-30 = Quality of Life Questionnaire; IPDE = International Personality Disorders Examination. The distribution of data for assessment scales is based on their reported cut-off or highest tertile. Significant results appear in bold type.

df = 1; $p < .05$), and to present higher levels of hopelessness ($F = .43.09$; df = 1; $p \leq .001$; 1-B = 1.29), depressive symptomatology both according to BDI-II ($F = .49.54$; df = 1; $p \leq .001$; 1-B = 1.4) and HADS-D ($F = 10.99$; df = 1; $p \leq .001$; 1-B = 1.42), and dimensional aspects of anxiety according to HADS ($F = 48.41$; df = 1; $p \leq .001$; 1-B = .87). Moreover, suicidal subjects also reported lower quality of

life scales: physical functioning ($\chi^2 = 18.58$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$), role functioning ($\chi^2 = 15.81$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$), cognitive functioning ($\chi^2 = 24.10$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$), emotional functioning ($\chi^2 = 35.72$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$), social functioning ($\chi^2 = 8.02$; $df = 1$; $p = .006$), global functioning ($\chi^2 = 18.79$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$), and body image distortions ($F = 3.8$; $df = 1$; $p = .05$; $1-B = .5$) more often than subjects with low suicidality. Concerning personality features, suicidal subjects were more likely to endorse schizotypal ($\chi^2 = 11.22$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$), dependent ($\chi^2 = 18.79$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$), schizoid ($\chi^2 = 7.01$; $df = 1$; $p = .008$), borderline ($\chi^2 = 5.42$; $df = 1$; $p = .02$), and avoidant ($\chi^2 = 4.73$; $df = 1$; $p = .03$) personality disorders according to the IPDE.

Logistic regression

According to the regression model (Table 2), high suicidal ideation was associated with high depression (OR = 3.55; 95% CI = 1.25–11.68; $p = .016$), high hopelessness (OR = 8.78; 95% CI = 3.44–25.88; $p \leq .001$), and advanced age (OR = 2.60; 95% CI = 1.18–5.98; $p = .016$). Inversely, patients with high scores in the IPDE, were less likely to present high suicidal ideation (OR = .44; 95% CI = .2–.96; $p = .038$). Combined, the use of these four features provided a curve Receiver operating characteristic (ROC) for possible optimal models with a good sensitivity and specificity to identify accurately the occurrence of high suicidal ideation in 83% of the oncologic patients (area under the ROC = .83, sensitivity = .854, and specificity = .936, Figure 1).

Discussion

In this exploratory study, the results confirm the excessive prevalence of suicidal ideation (25.2%) in oncologic patients, which has been estimated to be between 17 and 25% in other studies (Costantini et al., 2014; Schneider & Shenassa, 2008). Moreover, 52–78% of the patients fulfilled depression criteria according to HADS-D or BDI-II, respectively, 88% reported hopelessness and 45.1% reported high anxiety levels according to the HADS. These findings go in line with previous literature suggesting that the occurrence of hopelessness, depression and anxiety, during the oncological process increases the risk of suicidal behaviors (Balci Sengul et al., 2014; Costantini et al., 2014; De la Grandmaison et al., 2014).

Agreeing to the stress-vulnerability model, the worse quality of life and more physical and psychological handicaps associated with hospitalization probably account for a larger risk of suicidal ideas among inpatients compared to outpatients (Costantini et al., 2014; Rajmohan & Kumar, 2013; Robson et al., 2010). Suicidal ideation was more frequent among the elderly (over 60 years of age) and those patients receiving palliative

Table 2. Variables retained in the logistic regression model comparing oncologic patients with high vs. low suicidal ideation.

Characteristics	OR	OR (95% CI)	P value
Hopelessness (BHS), high vs. low scores	8.78	3.44–25.88	$\leq .001$
Depression (BDI), high vs. low scores	3.55	1.25–11.68	.016
Personality (IPDE), high vs. low scores	.44	.2–.96	.038
Age, older vs. younger	2.60	1.18–5.98	.016

Note: Significant results appear in bold type.

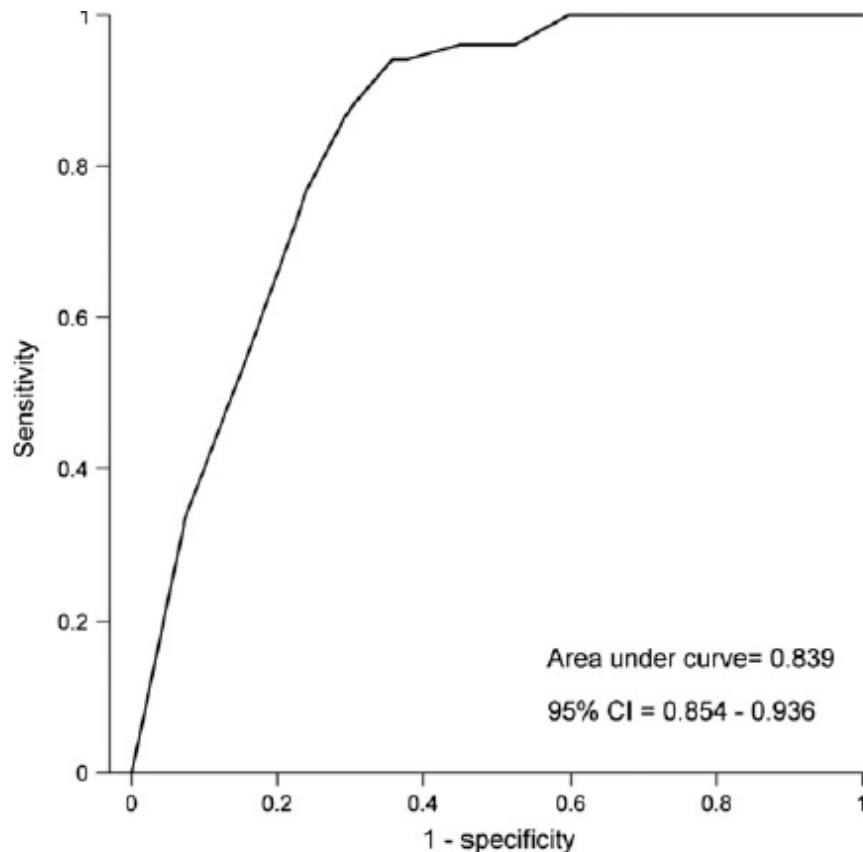


Figure 1. ROC curve for high suicidal ideation and advanced age among oncologic patients.

care, but we did not find significant differences depending on cancer types. Similarly, other risk factors known to be associated with suicidal behaviors, such as being alone and having financial problems were not significantly associated to high suicidal ideation (Chang et al., 2014; Misono et al., 2008; Robson et al., 2010).

At the same time, oncologic patients feel themselves detached from their social background, especially during prolonged hospitalizations. Interestingly, these factors could be translated into two essential components of the interpersonal theory of suicide that are needed to understand the development of suicidal ideas: perceived burdensomeness and thwarted belongingness. The construct of perceived burdensomeness equals to the feeling of being a burden on caregivers ('you will be better off without me'), while the construct of thwarted belongingness refers to the feeling of being disconnected from others (may express feelings of being alone or being lonely) (Joiner et al., 2009). Certainly, the patients try to avoid depressive symptoms deriving from distressful events, but they are limited by difficulties affecting problem-solving abilities, social support, and self-awareness (Balci Sengul et al., 2014; Quill, 2008; Spoleitini et al., 2011).

Few studies have investigated the association between personality traits and suicide in patients with cancer. We used the IPDE, which evaluates the global risk for personality disorders. If a threshold is passed then a complete evaluation of personality can be undertaken (Clark & Harrison, 2001). The screening is useful to detect persons who are unlikely to present a personality disorder, but it tends to overestimate their prevalence (Guthrie & Mobley, 1994; Lenzenweger, Loranger, Korfine, & Neff, 1997). In our

sample, patients with positive scores in personality disorders were less likely to present suicidal ideation, but this finding should be interpreted with care. Personality disorders, especially cluster B disorders, are associated with high suicidality (Miovic & Block, 2007; Misono et al., 2008), but the effect of life events on the suicidal risk is less clear and may depend on the type of stressor (Yen et al., 2005). For instance, in a recent study, life events were associated with less risk of suicidal behavior among borderline depressed patients. According to the authors, borderline personality rendered life events less 'effective' in precipitating suicidal acts (Oquendo et al., 2014).

All information for this study was obtained using validated instruments and following a standard assessment procedure for suicidal behaviors. However, some limitations should be noted. First, the data is self-reported and was not confirmed by other sources. Second, this study is cross-sectional and therefore no inference on causality can be established with regards to suicidal ideation. Third, given that all patients were hospitalized and a majority was receiving palliative care, the difference in suicidal ideation among cancer types was probably reduced and our results may not be generalizable to other oncological populations. Although other studies have reported a similar prevalence for suicidal ideation in other samples from different countries (Costantini et al., 2014; Fang et al., 2014), the predictors of suicidal ideation might differ between hospitalized patients and outpatients with cancer. Studies across different settings and cultures are needed to clarify these issues. For instance, examining patients according to the most incident type of cancer in Spain (colorectal cancer) (Sánchez et al., 2010), with about 60 individuals per group, should have allowed us to detect differences in suicidal ideation with an 80% confidence only if tumor localization had a strong effect size (around .8 according to the definition provided by Cohen (Cohen, 1988)). Still, using some simple questionnaires, we were able to classify accurately the suicidal ideas of most oncologic patients (area under the curve ROC = .83).

Exploring psychopathological features is essential to ascertain suicidal risk in oncologic patients. Our results provide some important implications for clinical practice in oncologic wards: (i) suicidal ideation may be disregarded in hospitalization units; (ii) a protocol for the assessment of suicidal risk is feasible and well-accepted; and (iii) tertiary prevention of suicide should be performed in some patients particularly at risk (advanced age, features of severity in their depressive symptomatology). Besides, through the use of a protocol to assess the distress levels of oncologic patients, awareness of the problem can be raised and human care improved among hospital workers. In turn, we may need to adapt clinical guidelines for all personnel involved in the care of oncologic patients, favoring integrated therapies by multidisciplinary teams (Costantini et al., 2014; Fang et al., 2014). Further studies are warranted to investigate psychological and medical features associated with suicidal behaviors in oncologic patients in order to improve screening proceedings.

Disclosure statement

No potential conflict of interest was reported by the authors.

References

- Aaronson, N. K., Ahmedzai, S., Bergman, B., Bullinger, M., Cull, A., Duez, N. J., ... Takeda, F. (1993). The european organization for research and treatment of cancer qlq-c30: A quality-of-life instrument for use in international clinical trials in oncology. *Journal of the National Cancer*, 85, 365–376. doi:10.1093/jnci/85.5.365
- Aguilar García-Iturrospe, E. I., Hidalgo Montesinos, M. D., Cano García, R., López Manzano, J. C., Campillo Agusti, M., & Hernández Martínez, M. (1995). Estudio prospectivo de la desesperanza en pacientes psicóticos: Características psicométricas de la escala de desesperanza de beck [Prospective study of hopelessness in psychotic patients: Psychometric characteristics of the beck hopelessness scale]. *Anales de Psiquiatría*, 11, 121–125.
- Akechi, T., Okamura, H., Nakano, T., Akizuki, N., Okamura, M., Shimizu, K., ... Uchitomi, Y. (2010). Gender differences in factors associated with suicidal ideation in major depression among cancer patients. *Psycho-Oncology*, 19, 384–389. doi:10.1002/pon.1587
- Arraras, J. I., Arias, F., Tejedor, M., Pruja, E., Marcos, M., Martínez, E., & Valerdi, J. (2002). The eortc qlq-c30 (version 3.0) quality of life questionnaire: Validation study for Spain with head and neck cancer patients. *Psycho-Oncology*, 11, 249–256. doi:10.1002/pon.555
- Balci Sengul, M. C., Kaya, V., Sen, C. A., & Kaya, K. (2014). Association between suicidal ideation and behavior, and depression, anxiety, and perceived social support in cancer patients. *Medical Science Monitor*, 20, 329–336. doi:10.12659/msm.889989
- Beck, A. T., Steer, R. A., & Brown, G. K. (1996). *Manual for the beck depression inventory-II*. San Antonio, TX: Psychological Corporation.
- Beck, A. T., Kovacs, M., & Weissman, A. (1979). Assessment of suicidal intention: The scale for suicide ideation. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 47, 343–352.
- Beck, A. T., Weissman, A., Lester, D., & Trexler, L. (1974). The measurement of pessimism: The hopelessness scale. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 42, 861–865.
- Botea, N. J., Soares de Azevedo, R. C., Mauro, M. L., Mitsushashi, G., Fanger, P., Lima, D., ... Franco da Silva, Vi. (2010). Factors associated with suicide ideation among medically and surgically hospitalized patients. *General Hospital Psychiatry*, 32, 396–400. doi:10.1016/j.genhosppsych.2010.02.004
- Breitbart, W., Rosenfeld, B., Pessin, H., Kaim, M., Funesti-Esch, J., Galiotta, M., ... Brescia, R. (2000). Depression, hopelessness, and desire for hastened death in terminally ill Patients with cancer. *JAMA*, 284, 2907–2911. doi:10.1001/jama.284.22.2907
- Brugha, T. S., & Cragg, D. (1990). The list of threatening experiences: The reliability and validity of a brief life events questionnaire. *Acta Psychiatrica Scandinavica*, 82, 77–81.
- Chang, C., Hayes, R. D., Broadbent, M. T. M., Hotopf, M., Davies, E., Möller, H., & Stewart, R. (2014). A cohort study on mental disorders, stage of cancer at diagnosis and subsequent survival. *BMJ Open*, 4, e004295. doi:10.1136/bmjopen-2013-004295
- Chochinov, H. M. (2001). Depression in cancer patients. *The Lancet Oncology*, 2, 499–505.
- Clark, L. A., & Harrison, J. A. (2001). Assessment instruments. In W. J. Livesley (Ed.), *Handbook of personality disorders: Theory, research, and treatment* (pp. 277–306). New York, NY: Guilford Press.
- Cohen, J. (1988). *Statistical power analysis for the behavioral sciences* (2nd ed.). Hillsdale, NJ: Erlbaum.
- Comeche, M. I., Diaz, M. I., & Vallejo, M. A. (1995). Cuestionarios, inventarios, escalas. Ansiedad, depresión y habilidades sociales [Questionnaires, inventories and scales. Anxiety, depression and social skills] (pp. 194–200). Madrid: Fundación Universidad-Empresa.
- Costantini, A., Pompili, M., Innamorati, M., Zezza, M. C., Di Carlo, A., Sher, L., & Girardi, P. (2014). Psychiatric pathology and suicide risk in patients with cancer. *Journal of Psychosocial Oncology*, 32, 383–395. doi:10.1080/07347332.2014.917136
- De la Grandmaison, G. L., Watier, L., Cavard, S., & Charlier, P. (2014). Are suicide rates higher in the cancer population? An investigation using forensic autopsy data. *Medical Hypotheses*, 82, 16–19. doi:10.1016/j.mehy.2013.10.025
- Fang, C. K., Chang, M. C., Chen, P. J., Lin, C. C., Chen, G. S., Lin, J., ... Li, Y. C. (2014). A correlational study of suicidal ideation with psychological distress, depression, and demoralization in patients with cancer. *Supportive Care in Cancer*, 22, 3165–3174. doi:10.1007/s00520-014-2290-4

- Ferlay, J., Steliarova-Foucher, E., Lortet-Tieulent, J., Rosso, S., Coebergh, J. W. W., Comber, H., ... Bray, F. (2012). Cancer incidence and mortality patterns in Europe: Estimates for 40 countries in 2012. *European Journal of Cancer*, 49, 1374–1403. doi:10.1016/j.ejca.2012.12.027
- García-Nieto, R., Parra Uribe, I., Palao, D., Lopez-Castroman, J., Sáiz, P. A., García-Portilla, M. P., & Baca-García, E. (2012). Protocolo breve de evaluación del suicidio, fiabilidad interexaminadores [Brief suicide questionnaire. Inter-rater reliability]. *Revista de Psiquiatría y Salud Mental*, 5, 24–36. doi:10.1016/j.rpsm.2011.10.001
- Gil, S., & Gilbar, O. (2001). Hopelessness among cancer patients. *Journal of Psychosocial Oncology*, 19, 21–33. doi:10.1300/J077v19n01_02
- Gomez-Campelo, P., Bragado-Alvarez, C., Hernandez-Lloreda, M. J., & Sanchez-Bernardos, M. L. (2014). The spanish version of the body image scale (s-bis): Psychometric properties in a sample of breast and gynaecological cancer patients. *Supportive Care Cancer*, 23, 473–481. doi:10.1007/s00520-014-2383-0
- Guthrie, P. C., & Mobley, B. D. (1994). A comparison of the differential diagnostic efficiency of three personality disorder inventories. *Journal of Clinical Psychology*, 50, 656–665.
- Herrero, M. J., Blanch, J., Peri, J. M., De Pablo, J., Pintor, L., & Bulbena, A. (2003). A validation study of the hospital anxiety and depression scale (HADS) in a Spanish population. *General Hospital Psychiatry*, 25, 277–283. doi: 10.1016/S0163-8343(03)00043-4
- Holland, J. C., & Alici, Y. (2010). Management of distress in cancer patients. *Journal of Supportive Oncology*, 8, 4–12.
- Hopwood, P., Fletcher, I., Lee, A., & Al Ghazal, S. (2001). A body image scale for use with cancer patients. *European Journal of Cancer*, 37, 189–197.
- Hoven, C. W., Mandell, D. J., & Bertolote, J. M. (2010). Prevention of mental ill-health and suicide: Public health perspectives. *European psychiatry: The Journal of the association of European Psychiatrists*, 25, 252–256. doi:10.1016/j.eurpsy.2010.01.011
- INE. (2014). Instituto nacional de estadística [National Statistics Institute]. [website]. Retrieved from www.ine.es http://issuu.com/fsme/docs/estadisticas_suicidio_ine_2014
- Joiner, T. E., Van Orden, K. A., Witte, T. K., Selby, E. A., Ribeiro, J. D., Lewis, R., & Rudd, M. D. (2009). Main predictions of the interpersonal-psychological theory of suicidal behavior: Empirical tests in two samples of young adults. *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*, 118, 634–646. doi:10.1037/a0016500
- Kendal, W. S. (2007). Suicide and cancer: A gender-comparative study. *Annals of Oncology*, 18, 381–387. doi:10.1093/annonc/mdl385
- Kisely, S., Crowe, E., & Lawrence, D. (2013). Cancer-related mortality in people with mental illness. *JAMA Psychiatry*, 70, 209–217. doi:10.1001/jamapsychiatry.2013.278
- Lenzenweger, M. F., Loranger, A. W., Korfine, L., & Neff, C. (1997). Detecting personality disorders in a nonclinical population: Application of a 2-stage procedure for case identification. *Archives of General Psychiatry*, 54, 345–351.
- López-ibor, J., Pérez Urdániz, A., & Rubio Larrosa, V. (1996). *Examen internacional de los trastornos de la personalidad (ipde): Modulo dms-iv y cie-10* [The international personality disorder examination: dsm-iv and cie-10 modules]. Madrid: Meditor.
- Loranger, A. W., Sartorius, N., Andreoli, A., Berger, P., Buchheim, P., Channabasavanna, S.M., ... Regier, D. (1994). The international personality disorder examination: The World Health Organization/alcohol, drug abuse, and mental health administration international pilot study of personality disorders. *Archives of General Psychiatry*, 51, 215–224. doi:10.1001/archpsyc.1994.03950030051005
- Lu, D., Fall, K., Sparen, P., Ye, W., Adami, H. O., Valdimarsdottir, U., & Fang, F. (2013). Suicide and suicide attempt after a cancer diagnosis among young individuals. *Annals of Oncology*, 24, 3112–3117. doi:10.1093/annonc/mdt415
- Malvezzi, M., Bertuccio, P., Levi, F., La Vecchia, C., & Negri, E. (2013). European cancer mortality predictions for the year 2013. *Annals of Oncology*, 1–9. doi:10.1093/annonc/mdt010
- Mann, J. J., Watemaux, C., Haas, G. L., & Malone, K. M. (1999). Toward a clinical model of suicidal behavior in psychiatric patients. *American Journal of Psychiatry*, 156, 181–189.
- Massie, M. J. (2004). Prevalence of depression in patients with cancer. *Journal of the National Cancer Institute Monographs*, 32, 57–71. doi:10.1093/jncimonographs/lgh014
- Miovic, M., & Block, S. (2007). Psychiatric disorders in advanced cancer. *Cancer*, 110, 1665–1676. doi:10.1002/cncr.22980

- Miret, M., Caballero, F., Huerta-Ramírez, R., Moneta, M. V., Olaya, B., Chatterji, S., ... Ayuso-Mateos, J. L. (2014). Factors associated with suicidal ideation and attempts in Spain for different age groups. Prevalence before and after the onset of the economic crisis. *Journal of Affective Disorders*, 163, 1–9. doi:10.1016/j.jad.2014.03.045
- Misono, S., Weiss, N. S., Fann, J. R., Redman, M., & Yueh, B. (2008). Incidence of suicide in persons with cancer. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 26, 4731–4738. doi:10.1200/jco.2007.13.8941
- Mitchell, A. J., Chan, M., Bhatti, H., Halton, M., Grassi, L., Johansen, C., & Meader, N. (2011). Prevalence of depression, anxiety, and adjustment disorder in oncological, haematological, and palliative-care settings: A meta-analysis of 94 interview-based studies. *The Lancet Oncology*, 12, 160–174. doi:10.1016/s1470-2045(11)70002-x
- Oquendo, M., Galfalvy, H., Russo, S., Ellis, S., Grunebaum, M., Burke, A., & Mann, J. (2014). Prospective study of clinical predictors of suicidal acts after a major depressive episode in patients with major depressive disorder or bipolar disorder. *The American Journal of Psychiatry*, 161, 1433–1441. doi:10.1176/appi.ajp.161.8.1433
- Passik, S. D., & Theobald, D. E. (2000). Managing addiction in advanced cancer patients: Why bother? *Journal of Pain and Symptom Management*, 19, 229–234. doi:10.1016/S0885-3924(00)00109-3
- Quill, T. E. (2008). Suicidal thoughts and actions in cancer patients: The time for exploration is now. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 26, 4705–4707. doi:10.1200/jco.2008.18.3129
- Rajmohan, V., & Kumar, S. K. (2013). Psychiatric morbidity, pain perception, and functional status of chronic pain patients in palliative care. *Indian Journal of Palliative Care*, 19, 146–151. doi:10.4103/0973-1075.121527
- Recklitis, C. J., Diller, L. R., Li, X., Najita, J., Robison, L. L., & Zeltzer, L. (2010). Suicide ideation in adult survivors of childhood cancer: A report from the childhood cancer survivor study. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 28, 655–661. doi:10.1200/jco.2009.22.8635
- Reiche, N., Odebrecht Vargas Nunes, S., & Kaminami Morimoto, H. (2004). Stress, depression, the immune system, and cancer. *The Lancet Oncology*, 5, 617–625. doi:10.1016/S1470-2045(04)1597-9
- Robson, A., Scrutton, F., Wilkinson, L., & MacLeod, F. (2010). The risk of suicide in cancer patients: A review of the literature. *Psycho-Oncology*, 19, 1250–1258. doi:10.1002/pon.1717
- Sánchez, M. J., Payer, T., De Angelis, R., Larrañaga, N., Capocaccia, R., Martínez, C., & Group, for the CIBERESP Working. (2010). Cancer incidence and mortality in Spain: Estimates and projections for the period 1981–2012. *Annals of Oncology*, 21, iii30–iii36. doi:10.1093/annonc/mdq090
- Sanz, I., García-Vera, M. P., Espinosa, R., Fortún, M., & Vázquez, C. (2005). Adaptación española del inventario para la depresión de beek-ii (bdi-ii): 3. Propiedades psicométricas en pacientes con trastornos psicológicos [Spanish adaptation of the beek depression inventory II (bdi-ii): Psychometric properties in patients with psychological disorders]. *Clínica y Salud*, 16, 121–142.
- Schneider, K. L., & Shenassa, E. (2008). Correlates of suicide ideation in a population-based sample of cancer patients. *Journal of Psychosocial Oncology*, 26, 49–62. doi:10.1300/J077v26n02_04
- Spoletini, I., Gianni, W., Caltagirone, C., Madaio, R., Repetto, L., & Spalletta, G. (2011). Suicide and cancer: Where do we go from here? *Critical Reviews in Oncology/Hematology*, 78, 206–219. doi:10.1016/j.critrevonc.2010.05.005
- Tas, F., Karalar, U., Aliustaoglu, M., Keskin, S., Can, G., & Cinar, F. E. (2012). The major stressful life events and cancer: Stress history and cancer. *Medical Oncology*, 29, 1371–1377. doi:10.1007/s12032-011-9927-7
- Weinberger, M. I., Bruce, M. L., Roth, A. J., Breitbart, W., & Nelson, C. J. (2011). Depression and barriers to mental health care in older cancer patients. *International Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry*, 26, 21–26. doi:10.1002/gps.2497
- Yen, S., Pagano, M., Shea, M., Grilo, C., Gunderson, J., Skodol, A., ... Zanarini, M. (2005). Recent life events preceding suicide attempts in a personality disorder sample: Findings from the collaborative longitudinal personality disorders study. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 73, 99–105.
- Zigmond, A. S., & Snaith, R. P. (1983). The hospital anxiety and depression scale. *Acta Psychiatrica Scandinavica*, 67, 361–370.

Accepted: 19 April 2016

DOI: 10.1111/ecc.12521

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

WILEY European Journal of Cancer Care

Predictors of psychological distress in advanced cancer patients under palliative treatments

D. Díaz-Frutos Psy.D. in clinical and health psychology, Psycho-oncologist^{1,2,4} |
 E. Baca-García M.D., Ph.D., Head of Psychiatry¹ | J. García-Foncillas M.D., Ph.D., Head of
 Oncology² | J. López-Castroman M.D., Ph.D., Psychiatrist^{1,3}

¹Department of Psychiatry and Clinical Psychology, Fundación Jiménez Díaz Hospital, Autónoma University of Madrid (UAM), Madrid, Spain

²Department of Oncology, Fundación Jiménez Díaz Hospital, Autónoma University of Madrid (UAM), Madrid, Spain

³Department of Emergency Psychiatry, CHRU Montpellier, Montpellier, France

⁴Spanish Association Against Cancer (AECC), Barcelona, Spain

Correspondence

Daniel Díaz de Frutos, Clinical and Health Psychology, Departamento de Psiquiatría, Hospital Fundación Jiménez Díaz, Avenida Reyes Católicos, 2, 28028 Madrid, Spain.
 Email: daniel.diaz@fdj.es

This work aims to investigate the factors associated with psychological distress in advanced cancer patients under palliative treatment. We comprehensively assessed the demographic, psychosocial and health factors of 158 advanced cancer patients. Patients with high and low distress, according to the Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale, were compared. A regression analysis was built to identify the best predictors of distress. Patients with high psychological distress (81%) were more likely to have lung cancer, suicidal ideation, hopelessness, low quality of life and poor body image than those without. In the multivariate model, only poor emotional functioning (OR = .89; 95% CI = .83–.95; $p \leq .001$), hopelessness (OR = .86; 95% CI = .78–.94; $p \leq .001$) and body image distortions (OR = .77; 95% CI = .68–.85; $p = .005$) were retained. High levels of hopelessness, impaired emotional functioning and body image distortions are the main factors associated with psychological distress in patients with advanced cancer. Potential interventions to modify these factors in palliative units are discussed.

KEYWORDS

body image, depression, hopelessness, oncology, quality of life

1 | INTRODUCTION

Advanced cancer is a stressful experience that affects all life's domains: physical, mental, financial, spiritual and marital (Delgado-Guay, Parsons, Li, Palmer, & Bruera, 2009; Lin & Bauer-Wu, 2003). This combination of factors often results in distress, a pragmatic term that according to the National Comprehensive Cancer Network can be used to minimise the stigma associated with mental illness (Holland & Alici, 2010). Psychological distress has been defined as "a multifactorial unpleasant emotional experience of a psychological, social and/or spiritual nature that may interfere with the ability to cope effectively with cancer, its psychological symptoms, and its treatment," and its estimated prevalence among cancer patients is situated around 40% (Holland & Alici, 2010). Distress is frequently expressed in oncological patients as a simultaneous presence of anxiety/depressive symptoms and quality of life impairments that may hinder the correct diagnosis and treatment of underlying mental conditions (Delgado-Guay et al. 2009; Holland & Alici, 2010;

Sellick & Edwardson, 2007; Skarstein, Aass, Fosså, Skovlund, & Dahl, 2000). The rates of depression and anxiety in patients with advanced cancer range 20%–50% and 20%–40% respectively. Of note, these figures come from studies with heterogeneous methodologies, as well as a wide range of sample sizes, tools and clinical features (Delgado-Guay et al. 2009; Irving & Lloyd-Williams, 2010; Mystakidou et al., 2005).

The management and assessment of distress is an important tool to avoid neglecting psychological issues that may exacerbate the symptoms of the illness and increase health care costs (Carlson & Bultz, 2003, 2004). There are several reasons that support this idea. In the first place, oncologic patients frequently report high levels of hopelessness and suicidal ideas (estimated rate: 7%–25%), and they show a higher risk of suicide than the general population (Botega et al., 2010; Díaz-Frutos, Baca-García, Mahillo-Fernández, & López-Castroman, 2015). Second, depression and anxiety affect the quality of life of oncologic patients in several domains (Brown, Kroenke, Theobald, Wu, & Tu, 2010; Delgado-Guay et al., 2009; Skarstein et al., 2000; Smith,

Gomm, & Dickens, 2003). Third, common symptoms of psychological distress such as insomnia, pain, fatigue or anorexia have a negative impact on the oncological process itself (Delgado-Guay et al., 2009; Redeker, Lev, & Ruggiero, 2000; Van Laarhoven et al., 2011). Fourth, psychological distress distorts the body image, and a poor body image impacts in turn the quality of life, the perceptions about the illness and the experience of emotional disturbances (Hopwood, Fletcher, Lee, & Al Ghazal, 2001). Last, high levels of depression and hopelessness during the oncological process have a detrimental impact on survival rates (Chang et al., 2014; Grassi et al., 2010; Mystakidou et al., 2008).

This work aims to investigate the factors associated with psychological distress in advanced cancer patients under palliative treatment. Thus, the assessment of psychological distress in advanced cancer patients during their hospitalisation in a medical oncology ward was based in anxiety and depression symptomatology, but other factors such as hopelessness or quality of life impairments were also evaluated. We have assessed demographic, psychosocial and clinical factors associated with high levels of distress among cancer inpatients under palliative treatments to determine the most relevant factors leading to the experience of psychological distress in this population. We hypothesise that the type of tumour as well as the impairments of body image and quality of life will be associated to higher levels of distress among oncological patients under palliative treatments.

2 | METHODS

2.1 | Participants

A total of 202 inpatients were recruited in a medical oncology ward from January 2012 until January 2014 at a Spanish hospital. For this study, we examined only patients with advanced cancer (life expectation of less than 6 months) that were receiving palliative treatments such as a palliative chemotherapy ($n = 158$, 78.2%). The remaining patients ($n = 44$) were under curative treatment (i.e. chemo/radiotherapy, surgery). Inclusion criteria were: (1) to present a primary tumour located in lung, colon-rectum or genitourinary area, which are the most frequent types of cancer in Spanish population (Sánchez et al., 2010); (2) to be 18–85 years old and, (3) to sign a written informed consent before participating in the study. The Spanish hospital research ethics committee approved the study.

2.2 | Assessment

We used a semi-structured interview with questionnaires to collect information about socio-demographic features, clinical information and essential psychological characteristics of the patients. The assessment of psychological distress was made through the Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale (HADS) (Zigmond & Snaith, 1983). The HADS has been designed to assess anxiety and depressive symptoms in a general medical population through 14 items, half of the items relate to anxiety (HADS-A) and the other half relate to depression (HADS-D). Each item on the questionnaire is scored from 0 to 3 and the

maximum score is 21. For this study we followed the criteria of Singer et al. (2009) that have previously defined the "balanced" cut-offs for cancer patients using HADS (Singer et al., 2009). Thus, patients with a HADS total score ≥ 13 were considered to present a significant level of psychological distress. HADS-D ≥ 5 and HADS-A ≥ 7 were the cut-offs for depression and anxiety respectively. HADS demonstrated to be a valid and reliable screening instrument against the DSM-IV criteria in different settings (Delgado-Guay et al., 2009), with an easy self-report administration and interpretation. We additionally used: (1) the Beck Depression Inventory (BDI-II) to measure the severity of depressive symptoms, including questions over somatic symptoms (Beck, Steer, Ball, & Ranieri, 1996); (2) the Quality of Life Questionnaire (QLQ-C-30), which assesses physical, psychological and social functioning related to the quality of life (Aaronson et al., 1993); (3) the Body Image Scale (BIS) to evaluate body image self-perception and sexuality in oncologic patients (Hopwood et al., 2001); (4) the Beck Hopelessness Scale (BHS) to examine thoughts and beliefs about the future (Beck, Weissman, Lester, & Trexler, 1974); (5) the Life Threatening Events (LTE) that examines stressful life events during the last year (Brugha & Cragg, 1990); (6) the Scale for Suicide Ideation (SSI) that evaluates ideas of suicide or death in clinical settings, we selected only five items that assess the main dimensions of suicidal ideas, given that palliative care patients were not necessarily suicidal (desire to live or to die, reasons to live or to die, suicide ideation and previous attempts; Beck, Kovacs, & Weissman, 1979) and (7) the International Personality Disorder Evaluation Screening Questionnaire (IPDE) to assess relevant traits and behaviours in the assessment of personality disorders according to the DSM-IV (Loranger et al., 1994). Both HADS and the QLQ-C-30 are frequently applied to describe the consequences of oncological illness in mental health and quality of life respectively (Cankurtaran et al., 2008; Hotopf, Addington-Hall, & Lan Ly, 2002; Mystakidou et al., 2005). A detailed description of the procedure and the Spanish validation of all questionnaires can be found elsewhere (Díaz-Frutos et al., 2015).

2.3 | Statistical analysis

To investigate the factors associated to psychological distress, we established two groups (high vs. low HADS scores). Univariate comparisons of socio-demographic features, clinical variables and assessment scores between these two groups were made using chi-squared tests and ANOVA as appropriate. Assessment scores in the different instruments (SSI, LTE, BHS, QLQ-C-30, BIS, IPDE) were specified as continuous variables. We tested the correlation between the assessment instruments and the HADS using Pearson's rho. Finally, a binary logistic regression model was built to estimate the adjusted ORs of the correlates of psychological distress. All independent variables that were significant ($p \leq .05$) in the univariate analysis were included in the logistic regression, as well as age and sex. Alpha was set to .05 (two-tailed). The variables retained in the regression model were used to construct a ROC curve according to their predicted probabilities. The best threshold values in the ROC curve were calculated using Youden's index. Analyses were performed with SPSS v17.0.

3 | RESULTS

3.1 | Sample description

The most relevant clinical features of the sample can be found in Table 1. Most patients were female (56.3%; $n = 89$), in cohabitation with someone (55.1%; $n = 87$), retired (64.6%; $n = 102$), 60 years of age or older (62.7%; $n = 99$), and had a high level of education (58.9%; $n = 93$) and income (55.7%; $n = 88$). Mean age was 63.8 ± 10.5 years. According to the HADS, 128 patients with advanced cancer (81%) endorsed psychological distress. Most of them screened positive for depression (HADS-D; $n = 139$, 88%)

and anxiety (HADS-A; $n = 113$, 71.5%). All assessment instruments were highly correlated with the HADS ($p \leq .001$) with the exception of LTE ($p = .79$) and IPDE ($p = .104$). The correlation between HADS and BDI in our sample was high (Spearman's $\rho = .437$; $p < .001$). Results using BDI as an outcome are not shown since they did not differ from those obtained with the HADS.

3.2 | Features associated with psychosocial distress (HADS)

Hereon, we will summarise only significant associations between clinical features and psychological distress (see details in Table 1).

TABLE 1 Characteristics of the sample according to the presence of psychological distress in the Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale (HADS)

Variables	Total ($n = 158$) n (%)	HADS < 13 ($n = 30$) n (%)	HADS ≥ 13 ($n = 128$) n (%)	Statistics F/χ^2 ($df = 1$)	p
Demographic					
Age (mean \pm SD)	63.80 \pm 10.46	64.23 \pm 9.48	63.70 \pm 10.71	.06	.80
Sex, female	89 (56.3)	18 (20.2)	71 (79.8)	.20	.68
Marital status, in couple	87 (55.1)	17 (19.5)	70 (80.5)	.03	.99
Educational level, high	93 (58.9)	15 (16.1)	78 (83.9)	1.20	.30
Working status, retired	102 (64.6)	17 (16.7)	85 (83.3)	.31	.39
Income, >1,500 €/month	88 (55.7)	17 (19.3)	71 (80.7)	.01	.99
Clinical					
Type of cancer					
Lung	57 (36.1)	6 (10.5)	51 (89.5)	.04	.042
Colon-rectum	43 (27.2)	9 (20.9)	34 (79.1)	.14	.70
Male genito-urinary	13 (8.2)	3 (23.1)	10 (76.9)	.15	.69
Female genito-urinary	45 (28.5)	12 (26.7)	33 (73.3)	2.41	.12
Therapeutic approach, palliative	158 (78.2)	30 (19)	128 (81)		
Assessment scales					
	Mean \pm SD	Mean \pm SD	Mean \pm SD		
LTE	3.28 \pm 2.19	3.23 \pm 1.99	3.29 \pm 2.24	.02	.88
SSI	1.59 \pm 1.73	0.40 \pm 0.89	1.87 \pm 1.76	19.43	$\leq .001$
BHS	9.26 \pm 4.63	4.63 \pm 3.53	10.34 \pm 4.17	47.96	$\leq .001$
HADS-A	8.56 \pm 3.71	3.87 \pm 2.08	9.66 \pm 3.10	94.67	$\leq .001$
HADS-D	9.82 \pm 4.18	4.03 \pm 2.17	11.17 \pm 3.28	127.8	$\leq .001$
BDI	22.54 \pm 9.24	11.43 \pm 5.49	25.15 \pm 7.92	80.57	$\leq .001$
BIS	6.71 \pm 7.11	1.97 \pm 3.02	7.82 \pm 7.34	18.27	$\leq .001$
QLQ-C-30					
Physical	13.34 \pm 4.10	9.70 \pm 2.96	14.19 \pm 3.86	35.51	$\leq .001$
Role	5.41 \pm 1.65	4.33 \pm 1.42	5.66 \pm 1.60	17.42	$\leq .001$
Cognitive	4.05 \pm 1.46	2.87 \pm 0.86	4.33 \pm 1.44	28.34	$\leq .001$
Emotional	9.37 \pm 2.47	6.53 \pm 1.81	10.03 \pm 2.11	69.72	$\leq .001$
Social	5.06 \pm 1.63	3.73 \pm 1.17	5.38 \pm 1.56	29.04	$\leq .001$
Global	9.26 \pm 2.76	6.73 \pm 0.49	9.85 \pm 2.42	38.39	$\leq .001$
IPDE	7.28 \pm 1.98	7.73 \pm 1.79	7.18 \pm 2.02	1.89	.17

The distribution of data for assessment scales is based on their reported cut-off or highest tertile. Significant results appear in bold type. HADS, Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scales; LTE, life of threatening experiences; SSI, Scale for suicide ideation; BHS, Beck Hopelessness Scale; BDI, Beck Depression Inventory; BIS, Body Image Scale; QLQ-C-30, Quality of Life Questionnaire; IPDE, International Personality Disorder Examination.

Regarding clinical features, distressed patients were more likely to be diagnosed with lung cancer ($\chi^2 = .42$; $df = 1$; $p = .04$), and to endorse more severe psychological symptoms, such as suicidal ideation ($F = 19.43$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$), hopelessness ($F = 47.96$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$), depression according to the BDI-II ($F = 80.57$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$) or the HADS-D ($F = 127.85$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$), anxiety ($F = 94.67$; $df = 1$; $p = .009$) and body image distortions ($F = 18.28$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$) than non-distressed patients.

Psychological distress was associated with low functioning in all dimensions of quality of life (QLQ-C-30 subscales): physical functioning ($F = 35.5$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$), role functioning ($F = 17.4$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$), cognitive functioning ($F = 28.3$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$), emotional functioning ($F = 69.7$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$), social functioning ($F = 29.0$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$) and global functioning ($F = 38.4$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$). All dimensions of QLQ C30 were significantly correlated with anxiety and depression scores as measured by the HADS ($p < .0001$), following Skarstein et al., 2000; see in Table 2.

3.3 | Regression model

The following variables were included in the regression model: age, gender, type of cancer, working status, SSI, BIS, BHS and all QLQ-C-30 subscales. Three factors remained associated to psychological distress in the logistic regression (Table 3): poor emotional functioning (OR = .89; 95% CI = .83-.95; $p \leq .001$), severe hopelessness (OR = .86; 95% CI = .78-.94; $p \leq .001$), and body image distortions (OR = .77; 95% CI = .68-.85; $p = .005$). Combined, the use of these three features provided a curve ROC with a threshold of .63 that identified accurately the occurrence of psychological distress in 95% of the oncologic patients (area under the ROC curve = 0.95, sensitivity = 0.95 and specificity = 0.83; Fig. 1). The best threshold values to identify psychologically distressed patients according to the ROC curve were 5.5 for hopelessness, 2.5 for the BIS and 8.5 for emotional functioning.

TABLE 2 Relation between different dimensions of QLQ-C-30 and anxiety and depression as measured by HADS

Dependent	Covariates	Pearson's rho	p value
PF	HADS-D	.55	<.0001
	HADS-A	.39	<.0001
CF	HADS-D	.64	<.0001
	HADS-A	.40	<.0001
SF	HADS-D	.44	<.0001
	HADS-A	.39	<.0001
RF	HADS-D	.45	<.0001
	HADS-A	.30	<.0001
EF	HADS-D	.38	<.0001
	HADS-A	.66	<.0001

Significant results appear in bold type.

PF, physical function; CF, cognitive function; SF, social function; RF, role function; EF, emotional function; HADS, Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale.

TABLE 3 Predictors of psychological distress according to HADS screening

Predictor variables	OR	OR (95% CI)	p value
Emotional functioning	.89	.83-.95	<.001
Hopelessness, BHS	.86	.78-.94	<.001
Body image, BIS	.77	.68-.85	.005
Gender	.68	.56-.77	.21
Age	.75	.68-.83	.68
Suicidal ideation, SSI	.85	.65-1.05	.62
Global Functioning	.70	.68-.81	.35
Physical functioning	.84	.78-.89	.09
Role functioning	.56	.50-.62	.16
Cognitive functioning	.67	.58-.75	.20
Social functioning	.76	.70-.81	.89

Significant results appear in bold type. HADS, Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale.

4 | DISCUSSION

4.1 | Main findings

In this study, we aimed to investigate the relationship between psychosocial factors and the psychological distress experienced by hospitalised cancer patients under palliative treatments. To identify correctly a high proportion of the advanced cancer patients with high levels of psychological distress in a medical oncology ward, we included multifactor assessment for psychological and clinical factors (Holland & Alici, 2010; Irving & Lloyd-Williams, 2010; Singer et al., 2009). Over 80% of the patients under palliative treatments showed a screen positive result of psychological distress. Accordingly, nine of 10 patients experienced a significantly elevated level of depression and seven of 10 patients experienced high levels of anxiety. These rates are high compared to previous studies in advanced cancer patients where distress was around 40%, depression 37%-56% and anxiety 29%-44% (Delgado-Guay et al., 2009; Teunissen, de Graeff, Voest, & de Haes, 2007). In part, this increase is explained by the use of different cut-offs and the palliative setting (Mitchell, Meader, & Symonds, 2010). Patients who face imminent death probably need specific assessment instruments as well as specific interventions adapted to their psychological experiences (Thekkumpurath, Venkateswaran, Kumar, & Bennett, 2008). Interestingly, three aspects explained the largest part of risk for psychological distress according to the logistic regression: the loss of emotional functioning, the decay in personal image and the presence of high levels of hopelessness.

4.2 | Interpretation of the findings

In advanced cancer patients, severe quality of life impairments may be a consequence of the disease and its treatment that cause further distress (Delgado-Guay et al., 2009). Accordingly, distressed patients

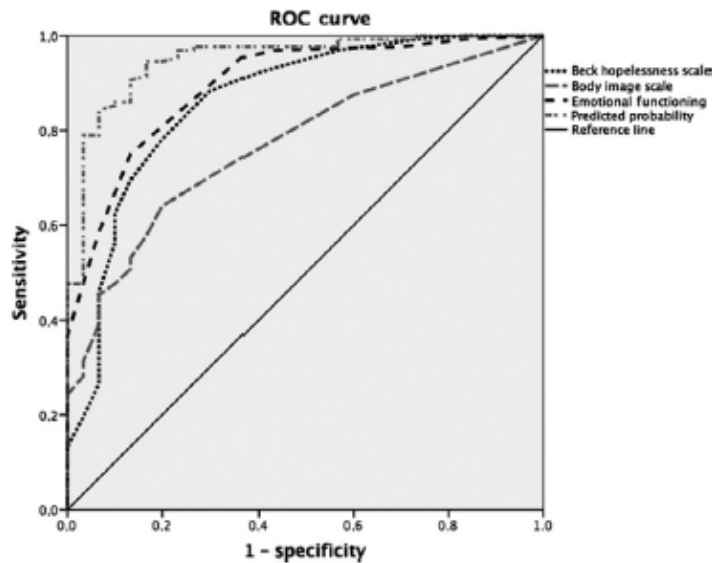


FIGURE 1 Receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve for high distress among advanced cancer patients

in our sample had more physical, social, role and cognitive impairments than non-distressed patients, but the main reported loss was in emotional functioning. This loss could be translated into an emotional numbing, which in turn leads to the feeling of being detached from others or isolated. In addition, advanced cancer has an important impact on body image. The loss of the patients' integrity together with the emotional distress can induce an spiral of negative emotions (e.g. social anxiety, depression), negative self-evaluation and negative behaviour patterns (Kissane et al., 2004; Rhondali et al., 2013).

The assessment of the construct of demoralisation should be taken into account in distressed patients (Grassi, Caruso, Sabato, Massarenti, & Nanni, 2014). The term "demoralisation" indicates the presence of existential distress, hopelessness, helplessness, and loss of meaning and purpose in life. Moderate to severe demoralisation has been reported in advanced cancer patients (Robinson, Kissane, Brooker, & Burney, 2014). In our sample, over 50% of patients endorsed high hopelessness, which is the hallmark of a demoralisation syndrome producing distress, depression and suicidal ideation (Díaz-Frutos et al., 2015; Fang et al., 2014; Van Laarhoven et al., 2011).

The prevalence of distress may be different across types of tumour. In our study, patients with advanced lung cancer (36.1%) presented significantly higher levels of distress than patients with other types of tumour (Zabora, BrintzenhofeSzoc, Curbow, Hooker, & Piantadosi, 2001). Advanced lung cancer carries poorer physical function (fatigue, breathlessness, weakness and fat loss), very poor prognosis and low survival (Brown, McMillan, & Milroy, 2005; Tanaka, Akechi, Okuyama, Nishiwaki, & Uchitomi, 2002).

Stressful life events and personality disorders were not associated with the experience of psychological distress. The experience of stressful life events has been associated with an unhealthy lifestyle but may also habituate patients to cope with incoming stress (Vissoci Reiche,

Odebrecht Vargas Nunes, & Kaminami Morimoto, 2004). Indeed, the positive changes associated with traumatic experiences have been conceptualised as posttraumatic growth (Sumalla, Ochoa, & Blanco, 2009). Regarding personality, previous studies have investigated its role in cancer initiation/progression with controversial and unclear results (Eysenck, 1994). Currently, individual differences are being studied as a modulating factor or coping skill for those facing a stressful situation (Carver & Connor-Smith, 2010; Segerstrom, 2003), but we did not find specific studies on personality and distress in advanced cancer patients.

Psychological interventions such as distress management or the treatment of mental disorders may reduce the health costs while increasing the well-being of the patients (Carlson & Bultz, 2003, 2004). Although some patients refuse to be treated, most studies indicate high acceptance rates of intervention programs (Andrykowski & Manne, 2006; Manne & Andrykowski, 2006). The effects of psycho-oncologic interventions on emotional distress and quality of life in adult patients with cancer have been well studied (Faller et al., 2013). Specifically for our study, palliative care units are made to provide comfort to the patient and family in a medical, psychosocial, existential and spiritual context (Chochinov, 2006). The importance of palliative care needs to be highlighted because patients, especially those under psychosocial distress, may refuse to be referred (Gerhart et al., 2015). Of note, their caregivers experience a huge burden and are also at risk of depression, social isolation and financial problems (Adelman, Tmanova, Delgado, Dion, & Lachs, 2014). Thus, well-designed palliative care services provide the necessary comfort for the patients and their relatives (Lin & Bauer-Wu, 2003).

Psychotherapy, especially with a cognitive-behavioural focus, and psychopharmacology are primarily used to manage depression, anxiety and various quality of life symptoms in advanced cancer patients (Price & Hotopf, 2009; Rao & Cohen, 2003; Roth & Massie,

2007; Uitterhoeve et al., 2004; Williams & Dale, 2006). However, few authors have attempted to improve body image in patients affected by cancer. Psychological interventions for the sexual consequences of cancer show significant improvement in body image, sexuality and psychological well-being (Brotto, Yule, & Breckon, 2010; Kalaitzi et al., 2007), but have not been applied in advanced cancer. However, advanced cancer patients share some characteristics with people with physical disabilities such as spinal cord injury or chronic pain (Kedde, van de Wiel, Schultz, Vanwesenbeeck, & Bender, 2010), who benefits from interventions on body image and sexuality. Complementary therapies including "prehabilitation" approaches and touch-oriented therapies, such as massages, exercise, breathing training or relaxation therapy, can also improve mood and physical symptomatology in advanced cancer patients (Ernst, 2009; Jensen, Bialy, Ketels, Bokemeyer, & Oechsle, 2014; Noel & Montagnini, 2011). Furthermore, a psychosocial intervention should include also caregivers to improve their competence, autonomy and relatedness (Badr, Smith, Goldstein, Gomez, & Redd, 2015), reducing the emotional gap with the patients.

4.3 | Strengths and limitations

Assessing psychological distress in patients under palliative treatment is complicated due to the simultaneous presence of physical and psychological symptoms (Ruijs, Kerkhof, Van der Wal, & Onwuteaka-Philipsen, 2013). Indeed, several authors use the term 'appropriate sadness' and indicate the difficulty of diagnosing a mental condition such as depression in this last phase of life (Holland & Alici, 2010; Irving & Lloyd-Williams, 2010). The main strengths of this study were the use of standardised clinical instruments in a comprehensive psychological evaluation of a large sample of patients under palliative treatment, as well as the use of higher HADS cut-offs to avoid neglecting patients in need of psychosocial help. We describe here the relationship between various psychosocial factors, but the cross-sectional nature of our study precludes any interpretations about causality or directionality. Besides, the limited sample size may have hidden the associations with demographic factors or the type of tumour. Larger or longitudinal studies would provide better evidence. Of note, HADS has been described as a good screening instrument for psychological distress but not for clinical depression in advanced cancer patients (Irving & Lloyd-Williams, 2010). Following the study by Singer et al. (2009), we chose a higher cut-off point for the HADS than in previous studies to prevent false negative results. Using a total HADS score of 20 would have reduced the number of distressed patients to approximately 40% of the sample but the regression model would have retained the same variables. Finally, a disadvantage of the study is the absence of information about potential confounding factors such as medical treatment or side effects, although their psychological effect is probably accounted for with the evaluation of quality of life.

5 | CONCLUSIONS

High levels of psychological distress in advanced cancer patients under palliative treatments are best predicted by impairments in emotional function, high hopelessness and distorted body image. These findings should inform interventions to reduce distress in palliative care.

ETHICAL CONSIDERATION

The study is part of a larger project which has been approved by a suitably constituted Ethics Committee of the hospital and conforms to the provisions of the Declaration of Helsinki.

REFERENCES

- Aaronson, N. K., Ahmedzai, S., Bergman, B., Bullinger, M., Cull, A., Duez, N. J., & Takeda, F. (1993). The European Organization for research and treatment of cancer QLQ-C30: A quality-of-life instrument for use in international clinical trials in oncology. *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*, 85, 365–376.
- Adelman, R., Tmanova, L., Delgado, D., Dion, S., & Lachs, M. (2014). Caregiver burden: A clinical review. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 311, 1052–1060.
- Andrykowski, M., & Manne, S. (2006). Are psychological interventions effective and accepted by cancer patients? I. Standards and levels of evidence. *Annals of Behavioral Medicine*, 32, 93–97.
- Badr, H., Smith, C., Goldstein, N., Gomez, J., & Redd, W. (2015). Dyadic psychosocial intervention for advanced lung cancer patients and their family caregivers: Results of a randomized pilot trial. *Cancer*, 121, 150–158.
- Beck, A. T., Kovacs, M., & Weissman, A. (1979). Assessment of suicidal intention: The Scale for Suicide Ideation. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 47, 343–352.
- Beck, A. T., Steer, R. A., Ball, R., & Ranieri, W. F. (1996). Comparison of Beck Depression Inventories-IA and-II in psychiatric outpatients. *Journal of Personality Assessment*, 67, 588–597.
- Beck, A. T., Weissman, A., Lester, D., & Trexler, L. (1974). The measurement of pessimism: The hopelessness scale. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 42, 861.
- Botega, N. J., Soares de Azevedo, R. C., Mauro, M. L., Mitsushashi, G., Fanger, P., Lima, D., ... & Franco da Silva, V. (2010). Factors associated with suicide ideation among medically and surgically hospitalized patients. *General Hospital Psychiatry*, 32, 396–400.
- Brotto, L., Yule, M., & Breckon, E. (2010). Psychological interventions for the sexual sequelae of cancer: A review of the literature. *Journal of Cancer Survivorship*, 4, 346–360.
- Brown, L. F., Kroenke, K., Theobald, D. E., Wu, J., & Tu, W. (2010). The association of depression and anxiety with health-related quality of life in cancer patients with depression and/or pain. *Psychooncology*, 19, 734–741.
- Brown, D., McMillan, D., & Milroy, R. (2005). The correlation between fatigue, physical function, the systemic inflammatory response, and psychological distress in patients with advanced lung cancer. *Cancer*, 103, 377–382.
- Brugha, T. S., & Cragg, D. (1990). The list of threatening experiences: The reliability and validity of a brief life events questionnaire. *Acta Psychiatrica Scandinavica*, 82, 77–81.

- Cankurtaran, E. S., Ozalp, E., Soygun, H., Ozer, S., Akbiyik, D. I., & Bottomley, A. (2008). Understanding the reliability and validity of the EORTC QLQ-C30 in Turkish cancer patients. *European Journal of Cancer Care*, 17, 98-104.
- Carlson, L. E., & Bultz, B. D. (2003). Cancer distress screening: Needs, models, and methods. *Journal of Psychosomatic Research*, 55, 403-409.
- Carlson, L. E., & Bultz, B. D. (2004). Efficacy and medical cost offset of psychosocial interventions in cancer care: Making the case for economic analyses. *Psychooncology*, 13, 837-849.
- Carver, C., & Connor-Smith, J. (2010). Personality and coping. *Annual Review of Psychology*, 61, 679-704.
- Chang, C., Hayes, R. D., Broadbent, M. T. M., Hotopf, M., Davies, E., Möller, H., & Stewart, R. (2014). A cohort study on mental disorders, stage of cancer at diagnosis and subsequent survival. *BMJ Open*, 4, 1-9. doi:10.1136/bmjopen-2013-004295
- Chochinov, H. M. (2006). Dying, dignity, and new horizons in palliative end-of-life care. *CA: A Cancer Journal for Clinicians*, 56, 84-103.
- Delgado-Guay, M., Parsons, H., Li, Z., Palmer, J., & Bruera, E. (2009). Symptom distress in advanced cancer patients with anxiety and depression in the palliative care setting. *Supportive Care in Cancer*, 17, 573-579.
- Díaz-Frutos, D., Baca-García, E., Mahillo-Fernández, I., & López-Castromán, L. (2015). Suicide ideation among oncologic patients in a Spanish ward. *Psychology, Health and Medicine*, 21, 261-271.
- Ernst, E. (2009). Massage therapy for cancer palliation and supportive care: A systematic review of randomised clinical trials. *Supportive Care in Cancer*, 17, 333-337.
- Eysenck, H. (1994). Cancer, personality and stress: Prediction and prevention. *Advances in Behaviour Research and Therapy*, 16, 167-215.
- Faller, H., Schuler, M., Richard, M., Heckl, U., Weis, J., & Küffner, R. (2013). Effects of psycho-oncologic interventions on emotional distress and quality of life in adult patients with cancer: Systematic review and meta-analysis. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 31, 782-793. doi:10.1200/JCO.2011.40.8922
- Fang, C. K., Chang, M. C., Chen, P. J., Lin, C. C., Chen, G. S., Lin, J., & Li, Y. C. (2014). A correlational study of suicidal ideation with psychological distress, depression, and demoralization in patients with cancer. *Supportive Care in Cancer*, 22, 3165-3174.
- Gerhart, J., Asvat, Y., Lattie, E., O'Mahony, S., Duberstein, P., & Hoerger, M. (2015). Distress, delay of gratification and preference for palliative care in men with prostate cancer. *Psychooncology*, 1, 91-96. doi: 10.1002/pon.3822
- Grassi, L., Caruso, R., Sabato, S., Massarenti, S., & Nanni, M. (2014). Psychosocial screening and assessment in oncology and palliative care settings. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 5, 1485. doi:10.3389/fpsyg.2014.01485
- Grassi, L., Travado, L., Gil, F., Sabato, S., Rossi, E., Tomamichel, M., ... & Group, T. S. (2010). Hopelessness and related variables among cancer patients in the Southern European Psycho-Oncology Study (SEPOS). *Psychosomatics*, 51, 201-207.
- Holland, J. C., & Alici, Y. (2010). Management of distress in cancer patients. *Journal of Supportive Oncology*, 8, 4-12.
- Hopwood, P., Fletcher, I., Lee, A., & Al Ghazal, S. (2001). A body image scale for use with cancer patients. *European Journal of Cancer*, 37, 189-197.
- Hotopf, M., Addington-Hall, J. C., & Lin, K. (2002). Depression in advanced disease: A systematic review part 1. Prevalence and case finding. *Palliative Medicine*, 16, 81-97.
- Irving, G., & Lloyd-Williams, M. (2010). Depression in advanced cancer. *European Journal of Oncology Nursing*, 14, 395-399.
- Jensen, W., Bialy, L., Ketels, G., Bokemeyer, C., & Oechsle, K. (2014). Physical exercise and therapy in terminally ill cancer patients: A retrospective feasibility analysis. *Supportive Care in Cancer Patients*, 22, 1261-1268.
- Kalaitzi, C., Papadopoulos, V. P., Michas, K., Vlasos, K., Skandalakis, P., & Filippou, D. (2007). Combined brief psychosexual intervention after mastectomy: Effects on sexuality, body image, and psychological well-being. *Journal of Surgical Oncology*, 96, 235-240.
- Kedde, H., van de Wiel, H., Schultz, W., Vanwesenbeeck, W., & Bender, J. (2010). Efficacy of sexological healthcare for people with chronic diseases and physical disabilities. *Journal of Sex and Marital Therapy*, 36, 282-294.
- Kissane, D., Grabsch, B., Love, A., Clarke, D., Bloch, S., & Smith, G. (2004). Psychiatric disorder in women with early stage and advanced breast cancer: A comparative analysis. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry*, 38, 320-326.
- Lin, H. R., & Bauer-Wu, S. M. (2003). Psycho-spiritual well-being in patients with advanced cancer: An integrative review of the literature. *Journal of Advanced Nursing*, 44, 69-80.
- Loranger, A. W., Sartorius, N., Andreoli, A., et al. (1994). The international personality disorder examination: The world health organization/alcohol, drug abuse, and mental health administration international pilot study of personality disorders. *Archives of General Psychiatry*, 51, 215-224.
- Manne, S., & Andrykowski, M. (2006). Are psychological interventions effective and accepted by cancer patients? II. Using empirically supported therapy guidelines to decide. *Annals of Behavioral Medicine*, 32, 98-103.
- Mitchell, A., Meader, N., & Symonds, P. (2010). Diagnostic validity of the Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale (HADS) in cancer and palliative settings: A meta-analysis. *Journal of Affective Disorders*, 126, 335-348.
- Mystakidou, K., Tsilika, E., Parpa, E., Katsouda, E., Galanos, A., & Vlahos, L. (2005). Assessment of anxiety and depression in advanced cancer patients and their relationship with quality of life. *Quality of Life Research*, 14, 1825-1833.
- Mystakidou, K., Tsilika, E., Parpa, E., Pathiaki, M., Galanos, A., & Vlahos, L. (2008). The relationship between quality of life and levels of hopelessness and depression in palliative care. *Depression and Anxiety*, 25, 730-736.
- Noel, J., & Montagnini, M. (2011). Rehabilitation of the hospice and palliative care patient. *Journal of Palliative Medicine*, 14, 638-648.
- Price, A., & Hotopf, M. (2009). The treatment of depression in patients with advanced cancer undergoing palliative care. *Current Opinion in Supportive and Palliative Care*, 3, 61-66.
- Rao, A., & Cohen, H. J. (2003). Symptom management in the elderly cancer patient: Fatigue, pain, and depression. *Journal of the National Cancer Institute. Monographs*, 150-157.
- Redeker, N. S., Lev, E. L., & Ruggiero, J. (2000). Insomnia, fatigue, anxiety, depression, and quality of life of cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy. *Scholarly Inquiry for Nursing Practice*, 14, 275-290. Discussion 291-278.
- Rhondali, W., Chisholm, G., Daneshmand, M., Allo, J., Kang, D., Filbet, M., ... & Bruera, E. (2013). Association between body image dissatisfaction and weight loss among patients with advanced cancer and their caregivers: A preliminary report. *Journal of Pain and Symptom Management*, 45, 1039-1049.
- Robinson, S., Kissane, D., Brooker, J., & Burney, S. (2014). A review of the construct of demoralization history, definitions, and future directions for palliative care. *American Journal of Hospice and Palliative Medicine*, 33, 93-101.
- Roth, A. J., & Massie, M. J. (2007). Anxiety and its management in advanced cancer. *Current Opinion in Supportive and Palliative Care*, 1, 50-56.
- Ruijs, C. D. M., Kerkhof, A. J. F. M., Van der Wal, G., & Onwuteaka-Philipsen, B. (2013). Symptoms, unbearable and the nature of suffering in terminal cancer patients dying at home: A prospective primary care study. *BioMed Central Family Practice*, 14, 201-210. doi: 10.1186/1471-2296-14-201

- Sánchez, M. J., Payer, T., De Angelis, R., Larrañaga, N., Capocaccia, R., & Martínez, C., & Group, F.T.C.W. (2010). Cancer incidence and mortality in Spain: Estimates and projections for the period 1981-2012. *Annals of Oncology*, 21(Suppl. 3), iii30-iii36.
- Segerstrom, S. (2003). Individual differences, immunity, and cancer: Lessons from personality psychology. *Brain, Behavior, and Immunity*, 17, 92-97.
- Sellick, S. M., & Edwardson, A. D. (2007). Screening new cancer patients for psychological distress using the hospital anxiety and depression scale. *Psychooncology*, 16, 534-542.
- Singer, S., Kuhnt, S., Gotze, H., Hauss, J., Hinz, A., Liebmann, A., ... & Schwarz, R. (2009). Hospital anxiety and depression scale cutoff scores for cancer patients in acute care. *British Journal of Cancer*, 100, 908-912.
- Skarstein, J., Aass, N., Fosså, S. D., Skovlund, E., & Dahl, A. A. (2000). Anxiety and depression in cancer patients: Relation between the Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale and the European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer Core Quality of Life Questionnaire. *Journal of Psychosomatic Research*, 49, 27-34.
- Smith, E., Gomm, S., & Dickens, C. (2003). Assessing the independent contribution to quality of life from anxiety and depression in patients with advanced cancer. *Palliative Medicine*, 17, 509-513.
- Sumalla, E., Ochoa, C., & Blanco, I. (2009). Posttraumatic growth in cancer: Reality or illusion? *Clinical Psychology Review*, 29, 24-33.
- Tanaka, K., Akechi, T., Okuyama, T., Nishiwaki, Y., & Uchitomi, Y. (2002). Impact of dyspnea, pain, and fatigue on daily life activities in ambulatory patients with advanced lung cancer. *Journal of Pain and Symptom Management*, 23, 417-423.
- Teunissen, S., de Graeff, A., Voest, E., & de Haes, J. (2007). Are anxiety and depressed mood related to physical symptom burden? A study in hospitalized advanced cancer patients. *Palliative Medicine*, 21, 341-346.
- Thekkumpurath, P., Venkateswaran, C., Kumar, M., & Bennett, M. (2008). Screening for psychological distress in palliative care: A systematic review. *Journal of Pain and Symptom Management*, 36, 520-528.
- Uitterhoeve, R., Verhooy, M., Litjens, M., Potting, K., Bensing, J., de Mulder, P., & van Achterberg, T. (2004). Psychosocial interventions for patients with advanced cancer - A systematic review of the literature. *British Journal of Cancer*, 91, 1050-1062.
- Van Laarhoven, H. W., Schilderman, J., Bleijenberg, G., Donders, R., Vissers, K. C., Verhagen, C. A., & Prins, J. B. (2011). Coping, quality of life, depression, and hopelessness in cancer patients in a curative and palliative, end-of-life care setting. *Cancer Nursing*, 34, 302-314.
- Vissoci Reiche, E., Odebrecht Vargas Nunes, S., & Kaminami Morimoto, H. (2004). Stress, depression, the immune system, and cancer. *The Lancet Oncology*, 5, 617-625.
- Williams, S., & Dale, J. (2006). The effectiveness of treatment for depression/depressive symptoms in adults with cancer: A systematic review. *British Journal of Cancer*, 94, 372-390.
- Zabora, J., BrintzenhofeSzoc, K., Curbow, B., Hooker, C., & Piantadosi, S. (2001). The prevalence of psychological distress by cancer site. *Psychooncology*, 10, 19-28.
- Zigmond, A. S., & Snaith, R. P. (1983). The hospital anxiety and depression scale. *Acta Psychiatrica Scandinavica*, 67, 361-370.

How to cite this article: Díaz-Frutos, D., Baca-García, E., García-Foncillas, J. and López-Castromán, J. (2016), Predictors of psychological distress in advanced cancer patients under palliative treatments. *European Journal of Cancer Care*, 25: 608-615. doi: 10.1111/ecc.12521

PSIC ∞ NCOLOGÍA

Aportes a la Comprensión y la Terapéutica



Claudio Rojas Jara
Yanina Gutiérrez Valdés

EDITORES

Nueva
Mirada
EDICIONES

PSIC∞NCOLOGÍA

Aportes a la Comprensión y la Terapéutica

Editores:

Claudio Rojas Jara

Yanina Gutiérrez Valdés

Primera Edición: Agosto 2016.

Nueva Mirada Ediciones

Talca, Chile.

ISBN: 978-956-9812-03-3

Para contactar a los autores:

crojasj@ucm.cl

Diseño y diagramación:

Alejandro Abufom Heresi

abufom@gmail.com

Universidad Católica del Maule

Facultad de Ciencias de la Salud

Departamento de Psicología

PMI en Oncología, Región del Maule.

Ministerio del Educación.

Gobierno de Chile.

CAPÍTULO 5

La enfermedad oncológica: conductas suicidas y factores de riesgo asociados a su evolución

Pablo Méndez Bustos¹

Universidad Católica del Maule, Chile.

Daniel Díaz Frutos²

Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, España.

Introducción

El cáncer es la primera causa de muerte en los países desarrollados y la segunda causa de muerte en los países en desarrollo, con unos 13 millones de casos nuevos anuales y unos 8 millones de muertes en todo el mundo al año (Jemal, Siegel, Xu & Ward, 2010; Jemal y cols., 2011). El cáncer afecta a la globalidad de la vida de las personas que lo padecen, y su abordaje ha de ser también global mediante equipos multidisciplinares (Forrest, McMillan, McArdle & Dunlop, 2005; Taylor y cols., 2010; Fleissig, Jenkins, Catt & Fallowfield, 2006). Los equipos de psico-oncología son una parte más del equipo multidisciplinar que atiende al paciente oncológico.

Un desafío al que se enfrenta la psico-oncología es el de detectar y adaptarse a las necesidades de los pacientes, ya

1. Psicólogo, Universidad de Concepción. Magíster en Investigación Social y Desarrollo, Universidad de Concepción. Máster en Diseños de Investigación y Aplicaciones en Psicología y Salud, Universidad de Granada, España. Doctor en Psicología Clínica y de la Salud, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, España. Researcher Affiliate of the Center of Excellence for Cultural Competence (CECC) of the Columbia University Medical Center, New York. Académico Departamento de Psicología, Facultad de Ciencias de la Salud, Universidad Católica del Maule, Chile. Correspondencia dirigirla a: pmen-dezb@gmail.com

2. Psicólogo, Psico-oncólogo, Máster en Psico-oncología, Máster en Mujeres y Salud, Máster Psico-farmacología, Doctorando en Psicología Clínica y de la Salud. Correspondencia dirigirla a: valdeszamarron@gmail.com

que no todos precisan asistencia psicológica o psiquiátrica por el hecho de tener cáncer (Braeken y cols., 2011; Warmenhoven, Van Rijswijk, Van Weel, Prins & Vissers, 2011; Brix y cols., 2008). Sin embargo, las alteraciones psicológicas y psiquiátricas que presentan los pacientes en relación con su enfermedad oncológica están muchas veces subdiagnosticadas y sin ningún tipo de tratamiento (Massie, 2004; Holland y cols., 2010; Weinberger, Bruce, Roth & Nelson, 2011). Menos del 10% de pacientes oncológicos son derivados para valoración por un especialista en Salud Mental (Weinberger y cols., 2011).

La incidencia del suicidio en personas con cáncer es superior, entre 1,3 y 2,6 veces, a la de la población general (Nock, Hwang, Sampson & Kessler, 2010; Akechi y cols., 2004; Bjorkenstam y cols., 2005). Se cree que el suicidio en los pacientes con cáncer viene mediado en la mayoría de casos, al igual que en la población general, por enfermedades mentales (Nock y cols., 2010; Robson, Scrutton, Wilkinson & MacLeod, 2010; Walker y cols., 2008).

En este capítulo se exponen datos epidemiológicos de la enfermedad oncológica y su relación con las conductas suicidas y además se agrega un apartado que propone un breve análisis de la importancia de los cuidadores y el impacto en de su rol en este tipo de pacientes.

Conceptualización y epidemiología de la conducta suicida en pacientes oncológicos

En las últimas décadas el cáncer ha presentado un progresivo aumento en el mundo. Durante el año 2012 en América del Sur se registraron más de 600.000 casos de cáncer con una mortalidad cercana a las 400.000 personas. Se espera para el año 2030 un incremento del 67% de nuevos casos en América Latina representando a 1.8 millones de nuevos pacientes diagnosticados (Torre y cols., 2015). En Chile cada año se producen más de 22.000 muertes por cáncer y se registran más de 40 mil nuevos casos, siendo los más frecuentes el de estómago, próstata y mama. Además, se ha convertido en la segunda

causa de muerte después de las enfermedades cardiovasculares (OMS, 2014).

Por otra parte, en el mundo se producen más de un millón de suicidios cada año transformándose en uno de los principales problemas de salud pública. En América Latina, la tasa de suicidio es relativamente baja correspondiendo a 7.3 muertes por cada 100 mil personas, aunque se identificaron tasas considerablemente más altas de 14.2 y 11.2 muertes por cada 100 mil habitantes en Uruguay y Chile respectivamente (OMS, 2014). Este último país ha experimentado en los últimos 15 años un aumento sostenido de las tasas de suicidio (55% entre 1999-2005), siendo el segundo país de la Organización para la Cooperación y el Desarrollo Económico (OCDE) con la más alta variación porcentual (OCDE, 2011).

La conducta suicida es un problema multidimensional complejo que resulta de una interacción dinámica de factores biológicos, genéticos, psicológicos, económicos, sociodemográficos y culturales (Borges, Orozco, Benjet & Medina-Mora, 2010; Nock y cols., 2010). Estudios epidemiológicos realizados en distintas culturas y países muestran diferencias de género en el desarrollo y ejecución de las conductas suicidas. Las mujeres realizan más intentos suicidas (Aghanwa, 2004); sin embargo, los hombres presentan una mayor tasa de suicidio consumado (Beautrais, 2003). En países desarrollados, los suicidios son 2 a 4 veces más frecuentes entre hombres (Denney, Rogers, Krueger & Wadsworth, 2009; Värnik et al., 2009) mientras que los intentos suicidas son 2 a 3 veces más frecuente entre mujeres (Nock y cols., 2010). La evidencia muestra que la tasa de suicidios se incrementa con la edad en ambos grupos mientras que al mismo tiempo los intentos decrecen (Carroll-Ghosh, Victor & Bourgeois, 2003; Sudak, 2005). Además, los análisis indican que las personas que se suicidan o que intentan suicidarse presentan algún trastorno psiquiátrico, representando el 47-74% de la población en riesgo de suicidio (Nock y cols., 2010).

En general, las personas diagnosticadas de cáncer pueden presentar alteraciones psicológicas y físicas (Holland

& Alici, 2010; Spoletini y cols., 2011) muchas veces consideradas normales, y que se espera disminuyan durante el curso de la enfermedad. Sin embargo, estas alteraciones pueden representar el inicio de futuros cuadros psicopatológicos asociados a trastornos afectivos y/o ansiosos que pueden afectar el proceso oncológico y su pronóstico, con prevalencias de hasta 50% y 40% respectivamente (Chochinov, 2001; Massie, 2004; Mitchell y cols., 2011; Walker y cols., 2014). Entre un 10 a 30% de los pacientes oncológicos son derivados a los servicios de salud mental (Holland & Alici, 2010; Weinberger, Bruce, Roth, Breitbart & Nelson, 2011) por lo que este tipo de trastornos pueden ser subdiagnosticados y permanecer sin tratamiento, aumentando el riesgo de conductas suicidas. Recientes estudios encontraron dos veces más suicidios en pacientes oncológicos que en la población general y rangos de ideación suicida entre 10-40% en pacientes con cáncer (Díaz-Frutos, Baca-García, Mahillo-Fernández, García-Foncillas & López-Castromán, 2015; Misono, Weiss, Fann, Redman & Yueh, 2008). El riesgo de cometer conductas suicidas aumenta durante las primeras semanas de ser diagnosticados y se mantienen los primeros cinco años de la enfermedad asociado a la extensión del cáncer (metástasis, cáncer avanzado), el tipo de tumor (pulmón, páncreas, cabeza y cuello, mama, estómago), y el sufrimiento o alteración de la calidad de vida ocasionado por el curso de la patología (Quill, 2008; Spoletini y cols., 2011).

Finalmente, entre el 20-40% de los pacientes diagnosticados de cáncer presentan un aumento del malestar psicológico, asociado a una mayor presencia de sintomatología depresiva y ansiosa y un deterioro de su calidad de vida (Delgado-Guay, Parsons, Li, Palmer & Bruera, 2009; Rajmohan & Kumar, 2013). Otros factores clínicos y psicológicos estudiados en pacientes con cáncer asociados al riesgo suicida han sido los trastornos por abuso de sustancias (Botega y cols., 2010; Passik & Theobald, 2000), trastornos psicóticos y alteraciones de la personalidad los que pueden disminuir las expectativas de supervivencia (Chang y cols., 2014; Miovic & Block, 2007) y por otro lado, otro factor de riesgo identificado,

ha sido la continuidad del malestar en supervivientes al cáncer (Lu y cols., 2013; Recklitis y cols., 2010).

Cáncer y suicidio

Los resultados encontrados indican que el suicidio en pacientes con cáncer son 2 a 3 veces superiores a la población general (Miller, Mogun, Azrael, Hempstead & Solomon, 2008; Misono y cols., 2008; Nasser, Mills, Mirshahidi & Moulton, 2012). Entre un .02-.26% de las personas con cáncer cometen suicidio, presentando los hombres mayor riesgo de conductas suicidas que las mujeres (Johnson, Garlow, Brawley & Master, 2012; Kendal, 2007; Kendal & Kendal, 2015). Las ratios de suicidios en pacientes con cáncer varían según el tipo de tumor, se ha encontrado que 26 por cada 100.000 personas-año con cáncer de testículo cometieron suicidio (Alanee & Russo, 2012), 135.4 por cada 100.000 personas año con cáncer de páncreas (Turaga, Malafa, Jacobsen, Schell & Sarr, 2011), 274.7 por cada 100.000 con cáncer de próstata (Llorente y cols., 2005), en mujeres con cáncer ginecológico el ratio de suicidio fue de 8.3 por cada 100.000 personas-años, con una ratio de mortalidad estandarizada de 1.4 (Mahdi y cols., 2011) y como media aproximada de 31.4 por cada 100,000 personas-años con ratios más altas en los 5 años posteriores al diagnóstico, en pacientes con cáncer de pulmón 5.74, estómago 4.68, cavidad oral y faringe 3.66, y laringe 2.83 (Misono y cols., 2008).

En Europa la prevalencia del suicidio en pacientes oncológicos también es alta. En Francia el 8.6% de los casos se asocia a suicidio (De la Grandmaison, Watier, Cavard & Charlier, 2014), hasta el 50% en hombres y 40% en mujeres de Dinamarca, donde además el riesgo de suicidio fue más alto en los 3 primeros meses para hombres y primer año para las mujeres (Yousaf, Christensen, Engholm & Storm, 2005). En Noruega el riesgo de suicidio fue mayor durante el primer mes del diagnóstico, para ambos sexos. El riesgo fue de 1.55 para hombres con cáncer en órganos respiratorios (4.08) y 1.35 para mujeres (Hem, Loge, Haldorsen & Ekeberg, 2004). En

Inglaterra se encontró un alto riesgo de suicidio en hombres (1.45) y moderado en mujeres 1.19 durante en el primer año de diagnóstico de cáncer y con tumores con mayor riesgo de mortalidad (hombres 2.67 y mujeres 2.17) (Robson, Scrutton, Wilkinson & MacLeod, 2010) similar en Escocia donde el riesgo de suicidio fue 1.51 (Camidge y cols., 2007). En Lituania, mayor riesgo de suicidio relativo para hombres de 1.43 y mujeres de 1.32 (Smalyte y cols., 2013). En Suecia el riesgo de suicidio entre pacientes con cáncer fue de 12.6 durante la primera semana y 3.1 durante el primer año (Fang y cols., 2012), en otro estudio sueco el riesgo se incremento en 2.5 inmediatamente después del diagnóstico y durante el primer año 1.5 (Lu y cols., 2013).

Otros países tienen cifras parecidas y aportan más datos respecto a los factores de riesgo de suicidio en pacientes con cáncer, por ejemplo, en Canadá el riesgo de suicidio fue particularmente alto en los primeros 90 días tras el diagnóstico (Bolton, Walld, Chateau, Finlayson & Sareen, 2015), similar a Taiwán con una media de intervalo de suicidio tras el alta fue de 39.7 días y donde casi la mitad (46.3%) de los suicidios ocurrieron 14 días después (Chung & Lin, 2010; Lin, Wu & Lee, 2009). En Corea del Sur, el ratio de suicidio en pacientes con cáncer fue alto (2.00). Las ratios fueron más altas después del diagnóstico (3.45) y se mantuvieron elevadas 5 años después (1.23); principalmente para el cáncer de páncreas en hombres y cáncer de pulmón en mujeres (Ahn y cols., 2010). Finalmente en Australia, el 0.3% de los pacientes cometieron suicidio, en su mayoría hombres (108). El ratio de suicidio en pacientes con cáncer fue 1.61, a los tres primeros meses fue de 5.75 en los tumores con peor pronóstico (Dormer, McCaul & Kristjanson, 2008).

Cáncer e ideación suicida

La prevalencia de ideación suicida en EEUU fue de 17.7% (Schneider & Shenassa, 2008), en pacientes supervivientes de cáncer de próstata se observó un 3.6-17.9% de ideación suicida

(Zhou, Hu, Kantoff & Recklitis, 2015). Por otra parte, un 7.8% de los supervivientes de cáncer infantil reportaron ideación suicida (Recklitis y cols., 2010). Otros estudios encontraron que entre un 8% y un 22.6% de los pacientes con cáncer reportaron ideación suicida (Costantini y cols., 2014; Spencer, Ray, Pirl & Prigerson, 2012; Walker y cols., 2008) hasta un 41% en Japón (Akechi y cols., 2010). En Corea del sur el 34.7% de los supervivientes al cáncer de estómago presentaron ideación suicida (Choi y cols., 2014). Al igual que en Suecia donde un 7% de los participantes presentaron ideación suicida asociada a peor calidad de vida (Lehluante & Fransson, 2014).

Por último, enfatizar que la evidencia encontrada plantea que uno de los factores de riesgo asociados al suicidio en pacientes con cáncer corresponde al lugar en el que está ubicado el tumor y cómo afecta en la toma de decisiones de las personas sobre el suicidio. Aunque existen una gran cantidad de artículos específicos en cuanto a la localización y el riesgo suicida, también hay un gran número que recogen varios o casi la totalidad de neoplasias (Dormer y cols., 2008; Hem y cols., 2004; Panczak y cols., 2013; Smailyte y cols., 2013; Yamauchi y cols., 2014). Sin embargo, existen claras evidencias que padecer de cáncer de pulmón, páncreas, cabeza y cuello o estómago está relacionado con mayores riesgo de conductas suicidas (Balci Sengul, Kaya, Sen & Kaya, 2014; Kendal, 2007; Misono y cols., 2008; Vyssoki y cols., 2015).

La salud de las personas cuidadoras

Las personas que se encargan del cuidado de personas con dependencia de larga duración con limitaciones físicas, mentales o cognitivas pueden ser los propios familiares o conocidos (cuidado informal) con el objetivo de suplir la discapacidad en las actividades básicas e instrumentales de la vida diaria, sin remuneración y sólo con la satisfacción del cuidado (Yanguas Lezaun, Leturia Arrazola & Leturia Arrázola, 2000). Por otra parte, pueden ser los y las profesionales sanitarios (cuidados formales) que ofrecen servicios remunerados y sistematizados

por parte del sistema público o privado (García Férez, 2003; Rogero-García, 2009). En cuanto a su salud, las familias que cuidan de pacientes se pueden llegar a encontrar ante situaciones de estrés que incrementan el riesgo de padecer diversos problemas psicológicos y fisiológicos, especialmente ansiedad y depresión (Cuéllar-Flores, Sánchez-López, Liminana-Gras & Colodro-Conde, 2014; Manso-Martínez, Sánchez-López & Cuéllar-Flores, 2013). La pareja suele ser cuidador/a principal, y son las mujeres las que se ocupan de los cuidados del esposo en un 97,8% y dedican más tiempo en horas de cuidado (Rogero-García, 2009, 2010). Esto supone una desigualdad de género en salud, reflejando las distintas oportunidades y recursos a los que no pueden acceder ciertos grupos desfavorecidos, retratándose en una peor salud (Borrell & Benach, 2006).

En el ámbito geriátrico y oncológico, el grupo de profesionales de salud (Menezes de Lucena Carvalho y cols., 2006) y familiares (Cuéllar-Flores, et al., 2012) se encargan de tareas muy arduas como la limpieza, actividades básicas diarias del paciente, toma de decisiones de sus responsabilidades personales (gastos, recursos sociales y otras cargas familiares) durante un tiempo prolongado puede convertirse en una tarea física y emocionalmente agotadora para las personas cuidadoras, e influir de forma negativa sobre su salud y bienestar personal.

Parece existir una asociación entre los roles tradicionales (masculinidad y feminidad) y una mejor salud mental, por ejemplo, mujeres que se encuentran conformes a las normas sociales y se encargan de los cuidados de otras personas tienden a mostrar más efectos físicos, como cansancio, insomnio y dolor pero menos efectos de malestar emocional cuando están con la persona enferma (Sánchez-López y cols., 2008; Sánchez-López, Rivas-Diez & Cuéllar-Flores, 2013; Sánchez-López, Saavedra, Dresch & Limiñana, 2014). Como se expuso antes, también existen conductas desadaptativas asociadas al rol de género, como peor salud, baja autoestima y más ansiedad y depresión en mujeres, asociado principalmente a su carga de cuidados (Sánchez-Herrero Arbide y cols.,

2011; Sánchez-López y cols., 2015), y mayor agresividad en hombres, asociada a un rol tradicional masculino que puede a su vez tener relación con un mayor consumo de tabaco y alcohol (Liu & Iwamoto, 2007; Sánchez-López y cols., 2013). Además, incrementa las conductas sexuales violentas que ocurren bajo los efectos del alcohol, influidas por las variables socioculturales y tradicionales como son el poder y la dominancia (Locke & Mahalik, 2005). Los trastornos emocionales y los trastornos de personalidad y conducta pueden aparecer o empeorar según diferentes situaciones en las que las mujeres y hombres se puedan encontrar, como sobrecarga, desempleo, falta de estudios o en situación de estar sin hogar; y cómo se ven afectados por las políticas sociales o su ausencia, o por la discriminación en las esferas sociales (Bird & Rieker, 2008; Sánchez-López y cols., 2012).

En cuanto a la salud, sobretudo en el campo del síndrome de burnout, como reacción primaria a los contextos familiares y laborales, se ha encontrado que el neuroticismo, el psicoticismo y la ansiedad se relacionan con niveles más altos de malestar psicológico y laboral en el personal cuidador, mientras que la apertura, la extraversión y la agradabilidad trabajan como factores protectores (Alishahi, 2014; Gomez-Cantorna y cols., 2015). El burnout aparece por tanto por la insatisfacción laboral, las condiciones negativas familiares y sociales y la falta de apoyo social y familiar (Garrosa y cols., 2008; Georganta, Montgomery, Tsinga & Panagoulou, 2012). Es importante, dirigir la ayuda terapéutica hacia la mejora de estos problemas, y por otro lado, promover el *hardiness* o personalidad resistente (como un conjunto de estrategias de afrontamiento personales, capacidad de concreción del problema y solución del mismo) que se ha visto que está asociada a mejor salud y trabaja también como un factor protector contra el burnout (Garrosa y cols., 2008, 2010; Gito, Ihara & Ogata, 2013; Ríos Rísquez, Sánchez Meca & Godoy Fernández, 2010; Saksvik-Lehouillier, 2012). En definitiva, el estrés laboral y el efecto negativo, principalmente las complicaciones psicosomáticas, se encuentra entre el 20%-25%, en las perso-

nas cuidadoras. En conclusión, prestar una atención social y psicológica adecuada a las personas cuidadoras informales (e.g. la familia) y formales (e.g. enfermería) supone cuidar de las personas que cuidan. Una persona cuidadora, puede suponer mejoría o agravamiento tanto de la salud y calidad de vida del paciente y además generar consecuencias socio-económica al sistema de salud.

Desde la atención al paciente al cuidado de la persona cuidadora

La repercusión que tienen los distintos factores de riesgo en la evolución de la enfermedad oncológica y su implicación en las conductas suicidas depende en gran medida de las diferencias que pueden existir entre países en cuanto al sistema de salud, sistema familiar y prevención de riesgos. La presencia probable de trastornos psiquiátricos en pacientes oncológicos y su relación con la aparición de conductas suicidas deja de manifiesto la relevancia de que los equipos de profesionales de la salud se coordinen y trabajen juntos por la persona, atendiendo a su bienestar físico, mental, existencial y social. La identificación temprana y la entrega oportuna de un tratamiento farmacológico y psicológico, en los momentos críticos y sobre todo considerando la evolución de la enfermedad a diferentes niveles favorecerán una mejor calidad de vida del paciente y su entorno.

Muchos de los estudios sobre suicidio mencionan cómo los pacientes buscan ayuda en sus círculos, familiares o profesionales. Los cuidadores, formales e informales, cumplen un rol fundamental en el pronóstico y evolución del paciente oncológico. Considerando las circunstancias de alta demanda y estrés a las cuales se ven enfrentados se hace necesario enfatizar la importancia de su propio cuidado. Asegurar una buena salud mental de los cuidadores es un factor clave que facilitará la intervención y la detección temprana de sintomatología asociada al desarrollo de conductas suicidas o el malestar que lleva al suicidio. Por lo tanto, una identificación temprana y un cuidado óptimo al paciente, al familiar y al profesional, son

claves en la prevención e intervención del riesgo suicida en pacientes oncológicos.

Referencias bibliográficas

- Aghanwa, H. (2004). The determinants of attempted suicide in a general hospital setting in fiji islands: A gender-specific study. *General Hospital Psychiatry*, 26(1), 63-69.
- Ahn, E., Shin, D., Cho, S., Park, S., Won, Y., & Yun, Y. (2010). Suicide rates and risk factors among korean cancer patients, 1993-2005. *Cancer Epidemiology Biomarkers & Prevention*, 19(8), 2097-2105.
- Akechi, T., Okamura, H., Nakano, T., Akizuki, N., Okamura, M., Shimizu, K., & Uchitomi, Y. (2010). Gender differences in factors associated with suicidal ideation in major depression among cancer patients. *Psycho-oncology*, 19(4), 384-389.
- Akechi, T., Okuyama, T., Sugawara, Y. y cols. (2004). Major depression, adjustment disorders, and post-traumatic stress disorder in terminally ill cancer patients: associated and predictive factors. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 22, 1957-65.
- Alanee, S., & Russo, P. (2012). Suicide in men with testis cancer. *European Journal of Cancer Care*, 21(6), 817-821.
- Alishahi, A. (2014). Mediating role of perceived control in the impact of personal qualities' on job stress among hospital staff. *International Journal of Hospital Research*, 3(1), 37-42.
- Balci Sengul, M., Kaya, V., Sen, C., y Kaya, K. (2014). Association between suicidal ideation and behavior, and depression, anxiety, and perceived social support in cancer patients. *Medical Science Monitor*, 20, 329-336.
- Beautrais, A. (2003). Suicide and serious suicide attempts in youth: a multiple-group comparison study. *The American Journal of Psychiatry*, 160(6), 1093-1099.
- Bird, C., & Rieker, P. (2008). *Gender and health: the effects of constrained choices and social policies*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Bjorkenstam, C., Edberg, A., Ayoubi, S., y cols. (2005). Are cancer patients at higher suicide risk than the general po-

- pulation?. *Scandinavian Journal of Public Health*, 33, 208-214.
- Bolton, J., Walld, R., Chateau, D., Finlayson, G., & Sareen, J. (2015). Risk of suicide and suicide attempts associated with physical disorders: a population-based, balancing score-matched analysis. *Psychological Medicine*, 45(03), 495-504.
- Borges, G., Orozco, R., Benjet, C., & Medina-Mora, M. (2010). Suicidio y conductas suicidas en México: retrospectiva y situación actual. *Salud Pública de México*, 52, 292-304.
- Borrell, C., & Benach, J. (2006). La evolución de las desigualdades en salud en Cataluña. Grupo de trabajo CPS-FJ Bofill. *Gaceta. Sanitaria*, 20(5), 396-406.
- Botega, N., Soares de Azevedo, R., Mauro, M., Mitsuushi, G., Fanger, P., Lima, D., & Franco da Silva, V. (2010). Factors associated with suicide ideation among medically and surgically hospitalized patients. *General Hospital Psychiatry*, 32(4), 396-400.
- Braeken, A., Kempen, G., Eekers, D., Van Gils, F., Houben, R., & Lechner, L. (2011). The usefulness and feasibility of a screening instrument to identify psychosocial problems in patients receiving curative radiotherapy: a process evaluation. *BioMedCentral Cancer*, 11, 479.
- Brix, C., Schleussner, C., Füller, J., Roehrig, B., Wendt, T., & Strauss, B. (2008). The need for psychosocial support and its determinants in a sample of patients undergoing radiooncological treatment of cancer. *Journal of Psychosomatic Research*, 65, 541-548.
- Camidge, D., Stockton, D., Frame, S., Wood, R., Bain, M. & Bateman, D. (2007). Hospital admissions and deaths relating to deliberate self-harm and accidents within 5 years of a cancer diagnosis: A national study in Scotland, UK. *British journal of cancer*, 96(5), 752-757.
- Carroll-Ghosh, T., Victor, B., & Bourgeois, J. (2003). Suicide. In R.E. Hales, & S.C. Yudofsky, (Ed.), *The american psychiatric publishing textbok of clinical psychiatry*. Washington D.C.: American Psychiatric Publishing, Inc.

- Chang, C., Hayes, R., Broadbent, M., Hotopf, M., Davies, E., Moller, H., & Stewart, R. (2014). A cohort study on mental disorders, stage of cancer at diagnosis and subsequent survival. *BMJ Open*, 4(1). doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2013-004295
- Chochinov, H. (2001). Depression in cancer patients. *The Lancet Oncology*, 2(8), 499-505.
- Choi, Y., Kim, Y., Yun, Y., Kim, S., Bae, J., Kim, Y., & Sohn, T. (2014). Suicide ideation in stomach cancer survivors and possible risk factors. *Supportive Care in Cancer*, 22(2), 331-337.
- Chung, K., & Lin, H. (2010). Methods of suicide among cancer patients: a nationwide population-based study. *Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior*, 40(2), 107-114.
- Costantini, A., Pompili, M., Innamorati, M., Zezza, M., Di Carlo, A., Sher, L., & Girardi, P. (2014). Psychiatric pathology and suicide risk in patients with cancer. *Journal of Psychosocial Oncology*, 32(4), 383-395.
- Cuéllar-Flores, I., Sánchez-López, M., & Santamaría, P. (2012). Personality and psychological adjustment in formal caregivers. What is best for caring is also the best for caregivers? *Anuario de Psicología/The UB Journal of Psychology*, 42(2), 151-164.
- Cuéllar-Flores, I., Limiñana-Gras, R., & Sánchez-López, M. (2013). The health of paid caregivers: a cross-sectional study in spanish population. *Psychology*, 4(6), 50-56.
- Cuéllar Flores, I., & Sánchez López, M. (2012). Adaptación psicológica en personas cuidadoras de familiares dependientes. *Clínica y Salud*, 23(2), 141-152.
- De la Grandmaison, G., Watier, L., Cavard, S., & Charlier, P. (2014). Are suicide rates higher in the cancer population? An investigation using forensic autopsy data. *Medical Hypotheses*, 82(1), 16-19.
- Delgado-Guay, M., Parsons, H., Li, Z., Palmer, J., & Bruera, E. (2009). Symptom distress in advanced cancer patients with anxiety and depression in the palliative care setting. *Supportive Care in Cancer*, 17(5), 573-579.
- Denney, J., Rogers, R., Krueger, P., & Wadsworth, T. (2009). Adult suicide mortality in the united states: marital status,

- family size, socioeconomic status, and differences by sex. *Social Science Quarterly*, 90(5), 1167-1185.
- Díaz-Frutos, D., Baca-García, E., Mahillo-Fernández, I., García-Foncillas, J., & López-Castromán, J. (2015). Suicide ideation among oncologic patients in a Spanish ward. *Psychology, Health & Medicine*, 1-11.
- Dormer, N., McCaul, K., & Kristjanson, L. (2008). Risk of suicide in cancer patients in western Australia, 1981-2002. *Medical Journal of Australia*, 188(3), 140-143.
- Fang, F., Fall, K., Mittleman, M., Sparén, P., Ye, W., Adami, H., & Valdimarsdóttir, U. (2012). Suicide and cardiovascular death after a cancer diagnosis. *New England Journal of Medicine*, 366(14), 1310-1318.
- Fleissig, A., Jenkins V., Catt, S., & Fallowfield, L. (2006). Multidisciplinary teams in cancer care: are they effective in the UK. *The Lancet Oncology*, 7, 935-943.
- Forrest, L., McMillan, D., McArdle, C., & Dunlop, D. (2005). An evaluation of the impact of a multidisciplinary team, in a single centre, on treatment and survival in patients with inoperable non-small-cell lung cancer. *British Journal of Cancer*, 93, 977-78.
- García Férrez, J. (2003). Bioética y personas mayores. *Informes Portal Mayores*, 4.
- Garrosa, E., Moreno-Jiménez, B., Liang, Y., & González, J. (2008). The relationship between socio-demographic variables, job stressors, burnout, and hardy personality in nurses: an exploratory study. *International Journal of Nursing Studies*, 45(3), 418-427.
- Georganta, K., Montgomery, A., Tsinga, E., & Panagoulou, E. (2012). Job burnout, job engagement and sub-optimal care among healthcare professionals. Paper presented at the *Psychology & Health*.
- Gito, M., Ihara, H., & Ogata, H. (2013). The relationship of resilience, hardiness, depression and burnout among Japanese psychiatric hospital nurses. *Journal of Nursing Education and Practice*, 3(11), 12.
- Gómez-Cantorna, C., Clemente, M., Fariña-López, E., Este-

- vez-Guerra, G., & Gandoy-Crego, M. (2015). The effect of personality type on palliative care nursing staff stress levels. *Journal of Hospice & Palliative Nursing*, 17(4), 342-347.
- Hem, E., Loge, J., Haldorsen, T., & Ekeberg, Ø. (2004). Suicide risk in cancer patients from 1960 to 1999. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 22(20), 4209-4216.
- Holland, J., & Alici, Y. (2010). Management of distress in cancer patients. *Journal of Supportive Oncology*, 8(1), 4-12.
- Holland, J., Anderse, B., Breitbart, W., Compas, B., Dudley, M., Fleishman, S. y cols. (2010). Distress management. *Journal of National Comprehensive Cancer Network*, 8, 448-485.
- Jemal, A., Siegel, R., Xu, J., & Ward, E. (2010). Cancer statistics. *A Cancer Journal for Clinicians*, 60, 277-300.
- Jemal, A., Bray, F., Center, M., Ferlay, J., Ward, E., & Forman, D. (2011). Global cancer statistics. *A Cancer Journal for Clinicians*, 61, 69-90.
- Johnson, T., Garlow, S., Brawley, O., & Master, V. (2012). Peak window of suicides occurs within the first month of diagnosis: implications for clinical oncology. *Psycho-Oncology*, 21(4), 351-356.
- Kendal, W. (2007). Suicide and cancer: a gender-comparative study. *Annals of Oncology*, 18(2), 381-387.
- Kendal, W. S., & Kendal, W. M. (2015). Comparative risk factors for accidental and suicidal death in cancer patients. *Crisis*.
- Lehulante, A., & Fransson, P. (2014). Are there specific health-related factors that can accentuate the risk of suicide among men with prostate cancer?. *Supportive Care in Cancer*, 22(6), 1673-1678.
- Lin, H., Wu, C., & Lee, H. (2009). Risk factors for suicide following hospital discharge among cancer patients. *Psycho-Oncology*, 18(10), 1038-1044.
- Liu, W., & Iwamoto, D. (2007). Conformity to masculine norms, asian values, coping strategies, peer group influences and substance use among asian american men. *Psychology of Men & Masculinity*, 8(1), 25.
- Llorente, M., Burke, M., Gregory, G., Bosworth, H., Grambow,

- S., Horner, R., & Olsen, E. (2005). Prostate cancer: a significant risk factor for late-life suicide. *The American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry*, 13(3), 195-201.
- Locke, B., & Mahalik, J. (2005). Examining masculinity norms, problem drinking, and athletic involvement as predictors of sexual aggression in college men. *Journal of Counseling Psychology*, 52(3), 279.
- Lu, D., Fall, K., Sparen, P., Ye, W., Adami, H., Valdimarsdottir, U., & Fang, F. (2013). Suicide and suicide attempt after a cancer diagnosis among young individuals. *Annals of Oncology*, 24(12), 3112-3117.
- Mahdi, H., Swensen, R., Munkarah, A., Chiang, S., Luhrs, K., Lockhart, D., & Kumar, S. (2011). Suicide in women with gynecologic cancer. *Gynecologic Oncology*, 122(2), 344-349.
- Manso-Martínez, M., Sánchez-López, M., & Cuéllar-Flores, I. (2013). Salud y sobrecarga percibida en personas cuidadoras familiares de una zona rural. *Clínica y Salud*, 24(1), 37-45.
- Massie, M. (2004). Prevalence of depression in patients with cancer. *JNCI Monographs*, (32), 57-71.
- Menezes de Lucena Carvalho, V., Contador, I., Ramos-Campos, F., Fernández Calvo, B., & Hernández Martín, L. (2006). Resiliencia y el modelo burnout-engagement en cuidadores formales de ancianos. *Psicothema*, 18(4), 791-796.
- Miller, M., Mogun, H., Azrael, D., Hempstead, K., & Solomon, D. (2008). Cancer and the risk of suicide in older americans. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 26(29), 4720-4724.
- Miovic, M., & Block, S. (2007). Psychiatric disorders in advanced cancer. *Cancer*, 110(8), 1665-1676.
- Misono, S., Weiss, N., Fann, J., Redman, M., & Yueh, B. (2008). Incidence of suicide in persons with cancer. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 26(29), 4731-4738.
- Mitchell, A., Chan, M., Bhatti, H., Halton, M., Grassi, L., Johansen, C., & Meader, N. (2011). Prevalence of depression, anxiety, and adjustment disorder in oncological, haematological, and palliative-care settings: a meta-analysis of 94 interview-based studies. *Lancet Oncology*, 12(2), 160-174.
- Nasseri, K., Mills, P., Mirshahidi, H., & Moulton, L. (2012).

- Suicide in cancer patients in california, 1997-2006. *Archives of Suicide Research*, 16(4), 324-333.
- Nock, M., Hwang, I., Sampson, N., & Kessler, R. (2010). Mental disorders, comorbidity and suicidal behavior: Results from the national comorbidity survey replication. *Molecular Psychiatry*, 15(8), 868-876.
- OCDE. (2011). Health at a glance 2011. OCDE indicators. Recuperado el 25 de agosto de 2013 desde <http://www.oecd.org/els/health-systems/49105858.pdf>.
- OMS, Oficina Regional para Las Américas. (2014). Mortalidad por suicidio en las américas. Recuperado el 11 de Junio de 2015 desde http://www.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=10114%3Anew-paho-report-more-than-7-suicides-per-hour-in-the-americas&Itemid=1926&lang=es
- Panczak, R., Spoerri, A., Zwahlen, M., Bopp, M., Gutzwiller, F., & Egger, M. (2013). Religion and suicide in patients with mental illness or cancer. *Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior*, 43(2), 213-222.
- Passik, S., & Theobald, D. (2000). Managing addiction in advanced cancer patients: why bother?. *Journal of Pain and Symptom Manage*, 19(3), 229-234.
- Quill, T. (2008). Suicidal thoughts and actions in cancer patients: the time for exploration is now. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 26(29), 4705-4707.
- Rajmohan, V., & Kumar, S. (2013). Psychiatric morbidity, pain perception, and functional status of chronic pain patients in palliative care. *Indian Journal of Palliative Care*, 19(3), 146-151.
- Recklitis, C., Diller, L., Li, X., Najita, J., Robison, L., & Zeltzer, L. (2010). Suicide ideation in adult survivors of childhood cancer: a report from the childhood cancer survivor study. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 28(4), 655-661.
- Ríos Rísquez, M., Sánchez Meca, J., & Godoy Fernández, C. (2010). Personalidad resistente, autoeficacia y estado general de salud en profesionales de enfermería de cuidados intensivos y urgencias. *Psicothema*, 22(4), 600-605.

- Ríos Rísquez, M., Godoy-Fernández, C., & Sánchez-Meca, J. (2011). Síndrome de quemarse por el trabajo, personalidad resistente y malestar psicológico en personal de enfermería. *Anales de Psicología*, 27(1), 71-79.
- Robson A., Scrutton F., Wilkinson L., & MacLeod, F. (2010). The risk of suicide in cancer patients: a review of the literature. *Psychooncology*, 19, 1250-1258.
- Rogero-García, J. (2010). *Los tiempos del cuidado: el impacto de la dependencia de los mayores en la vida cotidiana de sus cuidadores*. Madrid: Imersio.
- Saksvik-Lehouillier, I., Bjorvatn, B., Hetland, H., Sandal, Gro M., Moen, B., Mageroy, N., & Pallesen, S. (2012). Personality factors predicting changes in shift work tolerance: a longitudinal study among nurses working rotating shifts. *Work & Stress*, 26(2), 143-160.
- Sánchez-Herrero Arbide, S., Sánchez-López, M., & Aparicio-García, M. (2011). Salud, ansiedad y autoestima en mujeres de mediana edad cuidadoras y no cuidadoras. *Revista de Ansiedad y Estrés*, 17(1), 27-37.
- Sánchez-López, M., López-García, J., Dresch, V., & Corbalán, J. (2008). Sociodemographic, psychological and health-related factors associated with poor mental health in spanish women and men in midlife. *Women & Health*, 48(4), 445-465.
- Sánchez-López, M., Saavedra, A., Dresch, V., & Limiñana, R. (2014). Conformity to traditional gender norms in a feminized occupation: the influence on health behaviors. *Health*, 6(20), 2775-2789.
- Sánchez-López, M., Cuellar-Flores, I., & Dresch, V. (2012). The impact of gender roles on health. *Women & Health*, 52(2), 182-196.
- Sánchez-López, M., Rivas-Diez, R. & Cuéllar-Flores, I. (2013). Masculinity and femininity as predictors of tobacco and alcohol consumption in spanish university students. *Salud y Drogas*, 13(1), 15-22.
- Sánchez-López, M., Limiñana-Gras, R., Colodro-Conde, L., & Cuéllar-Flores, I. (2015). Use of the hospital anxiety and

- depression scale in spanish caregivers. *Scandinavian Journal of Caring Sciences*, 29(4), 751-759.
- Schneider, K., & Shenassa, E. (2008). Correlates of suicide ideation in a population-based sample of cancer patients. *Journal of Psychosocial Oncology*, 26(2), 49-62.
- Smailyte, G., Jasilionis, D., Kaceniene, A., Krilaviciute, A., Ambrozaitiene, D., & Stankuniene, V. (2013). Suicides among cancer patients in Lithuania: a population-based census-linked study. *Cancer Epidemiology*, 37(5), 714-718.
- Spencer, R., Ray, A., Pirl, W., & Prigerson, H. (2012). Clinical correlates of suicidal thoughts in patients with advanced cancer. *The American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry*, 20(4), 327-336.
- Spoletini, I., Gianni, W., Caltagirone, C., Madaio, R., Repetto, L., & Spalletta, G. (2011). Suicide and cancer: where do we go from here?. *Critical Reviews in Oncology/Hematology*, 78(3), 206-219.
- Sudak, H. (2005). Suicide. In B. Sadock, & C. Sadock, (Eds.), *Kaplan and Sadock's comprehensive textbook of psychiatry* (8th Ed.). Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams and Wilkins.
- Taylor, C., Munro, A., Glynne-Jones, R. Griffith, C., Trevatt, P., Michael Richards, M., & Ramirez, A. (2010). Multidisciplinary team working in cancer: what is the evidence?. *British Medical Journal*, 340, c951.
- Torre, L., Bray, F., Siegel, R., Ferlay, J., Lortet-Tieulent, J., & Jemal, A. (2015). Global cancer statistics, 2012. *CA: A Cancer Journal for Clinicians*, 65(2), 87-108.
- Turaga, K., Malafa, M., Jacobsen, P., Schell, M., & Sarr, M. (2011). Suicide in patients with pancreatic cancer. *Cancer*, 117(3), 642-647.
- Värnik, A., Kõlves, K., Allik, J., Arensman, E., Aromaa, E., Van Audenhove, C., & Hegerl, U. (2009). Gender issues in suicide rates, trends and methods among youths aged 15-24 in 15 european countries. *Journal of Affective Disorders*, 113(3), 216-226.
- Vyssoki, B., Gleiss, A., Rockett, I., Hackl, M., Leitner, B., Sonneck, G., & Kapusta, N. (2015). Suicide among 915,303

- austrian cancer patients: who is at risk?. *Journal of Affective Disorders*, 175, 287-291.
- Walker, J., Hansen, C., Martin, P., Symeonides, S., Ramessur, R., Murray, G., & Sharpe, M. (2014). Prevalence, associations, and adequacy of treatment of major depression in patients with cancer: a cross-sectional analysis of routinely collected clinical data. *The Lancet Psychiatry*, 1(5), 343-350.
- Walker, J., Waters, R., Murray, G., Swanson, H., Hibberd, C., Rush, R., Storey, D., Strong, V., Fallon, M., Wall, L., & Sharpe, M. (2008). Better off dead: suicidal thoughts in cancer patients. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 26, 4725-4730.
- Warmenhoven, F., Van Rijswijk, E., Van Weel, C., Prins, J., & Vissers, K. (2011). Low prevalence of depressive disorder in ambulatory advanced cancer patients using the schedules for clinical assessment in neuropsychiatry (SCAN 2.1). *Journal of Affective Disorders*, 136, 1209-1211.
- Weinberger, M., Bruce, M., Roth, A., & Nelson, C. (2011). Depression and barriers to mental health care in older cancer patients. *International Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry*, 26(1), 21-26.
- Yamauchi, T., Inagaki, M., Yonemoto, N., Iwasaki, M., Inoue, M., Akechi, T., & Tsugane, S. (2014). Death by suicide and other externally caused injuries following a cancer diagnosis: the Japan public health center-based prospective study. *Psycho-Oncology*, 23(9), 1034-1041.
- Yanguas Lezaun, J., Leturia Arrazola, M. & Leturia Arrazola, F. (2000). Apoyo informal y cuidado de las personas mayores dependientes. *Papeles del Psicólogo*, 76, 4, 23-32.
- Yousaf, U., Christensen, M., Engholm, G., & Storm, H. (2005). Suicides among danish cancer patients 1971-1999. *British Journal of Cancer*, 92(6), 995-1000.
- Zhou, E., Hu, J., Kantoff, P., & Recklitis, C. (2015). Identifying suicidal symptoms in prostate cancer survivors using brief self-report. *Journal of Cancer Survivorship*, 9(1), 59-67.

V. DISCUSIÓN, CONCLUSIONES Y PERSPECTIVAS FUTURAS

DISCUSIÓN

En el transcurso de esta investigación se han ido describiendo los factores de riesgo que aparecen en el malestar psicológico de pacientes oncológicos en tratamientos curativos y paliativos y su influencia en el desarrollo de la ideación suicida. El objetivo de esta tesis fue describir los aspectos psicopatológicos del cáncer y del suicidio y analizar los resultados procedentes de los instrumentos de medida de los siguientes factores psicosociales: personalidad, calidad de vida, ideación suicida, imagen corporal, ansiedad, depresión, desesperanza y eventos estresantes durante el proceso oncológico. La población de estudio estaba compuesta por pacientes con los tumores de mayor incidencia y mortalidad en España, según variables sexo, edad, nivel socio-económico y educativo y tipo de tratamiento.

En esta discusión se presentan las conclusiones de los tres artículos principales de manera resumida, interrelacionando los resultados y poniendo el foco de atención en las perspectivas futuras.

Estudio 1. Revisión bibliográfica de conductas suicidas en pacientes oncológicos según el área geográfica.

En la revisión se expone que la conducta suicida es un problema multidimensional complejo que resulta de una interacción dinámica de factores biológicos, genéticos, psicológicos, económicos y culturales (Borges, Orozco, Benjet & Medina-Mora, 2010; Nock y cols. 2010). Los estudios epidemiológicos realizados en distintos países muestran diferencias de tipo de tumor, sexo y edad en el desarrollo y ejecución de las conductas suicidas, primando en hombres jóvenes con mayor tasa de suicidio o mujeres y personas mayores con más ideación e intentos suicidios. Se encontró que las personas

con rasgos de personalidad de tipo impulsividad o agresividad más altos, el nivel socio-económico y educativo bajos, el tipo de tumor y de tratamiento (pulmón, mama, estómago, especialmente en paliativos, tratamientos agresivos o recién diagnosticados), la duración prolongada del ingreso hospitalario, la historia de salud mental y los factores psicológicos. Los resultados en cuanto a ideación suicida en países como EEUU, Corea del Sur, Japón, Suecia, Dinamarca, Italia o España se diferencian en cuanto al tamaño de la población de estudio y la incidencia, siendo los países del sur de Europa y países latinoamericanos los que menos incidencia y también menos estudios de investigación presentan. Y coinciden en el tipo de factores de riesgo, especialmente, en los tipos de tumor y tratamientos y como repercuten en la salud mental del paciente oncológico. Respecto a este último punto algunas limitaciones de la literatura han sido las siguientes: i) la metodología, el uso de registros sin contacto directo con el paciente para indicar el riesgo, y los diferentes métodos para clasificar el riesgo de conductas suicidas y problemas de salud mental. ii) La falta de estudios que valoren aspectos sociales, psicológicos y espirituales relacionados con la psicopatología del suicidio en pacientes oncológicos. iii) La limitada existencia de revisiones sistemáticas, de correlaciones y relaciones de causalidad entre los factores involucrados en la psicopatología del suicidio en pacientes con cáncer. iv) La limitación de la información aportada por los pacientes para conocer el porqué de su deseo de muerte y si tiene relación con otras experiencias como el abandono de tratamientos, eutanasia, últimas voluntades, etc.

Estudio 2. Ideación suicida en pacientes oncológicos en una unidad médica española

Cuando se evalúan la ideación suicida en los pacientes oncológicos ingresados encontramos una estimación el deseo de muerte del 25%, de los más altos en la literatura. Los pacientes con mayores niveles de ideación suicida cumplieron criterios de depresión con el HADS-D y BDI-II y ansiedad con el HADS-A. La mayor parte del malestar se dio en mujeres de edad avanzada y en tratamiento paliativo o cuidados paliativos. El modelo de regresión muestra que los factores más asociados el proceso de ideación suicida en los pacientes con cáncer fueron la edad avanzada (>60 años), la desesperanza, la depresión y la ansiedad. Mientras que la personalidad no resultó ser un factor de riesgo, sino que los pacientes con rasgos de personalidad más desadaptativos pueden recibir o percibir más factores de protección en los cuidados sanitarios. La teoría interpersonal del suicidio ofrece una explicación a estos resultados (Joiner, 2009). Los pacientes oncológicos pueden tener una carga percibida, soledad y problemas en sus estrategias de afrontamiento que se agravaría en periodos de ingresos más largos y cuando la percepción de apoyo social es menor. Una de las limitaciones principales de este estudio se encaja en el apartado metodológico, aparte del tamaño y composición de la muestra, lo más importante es la expresión de esa ideación suicida. Se desconoce comprehensivamente el trasfondo de este deseo de muerte. Sabemos que tiene relación con el malestar emocional en cuanto en tanto aparece sintomatología ansioso-depresiva y problemas de calidad de vida. Pero nos falta por saber algo fundamental, que tampoco aclaran en las revisiones sistemáticas, incluida la nuestra. ¿Es este deseo de muerte una solicitud de mejores cuidados, de eutanasia o de otro tipo de evitación del sufrimiento?

Estudio 3. Predictores psicológicos del malestar en pacientes con cáncer avanzado en tratamiento paliativo.

El estudio de los factores asociados al malestar psicológico en los pacientes con mayores niveles de ideación suicida, es decir, con cáncer avanzado y en tratamiento paliativo, produjo un modelo de regresión que indicaba que los mejores predictores eran el funcionamiento emocional alterado, la desesperanza y la imagen corporal. Durante las hospitalizaciones, los pacientes con cáncer avanzado presentan gran malestar en cuanto a calidad de vida consecuencia del proceso de enfermedad. La alteración de los aspectos emocionales de la calidad de vida en los pacientes oncológicos puede suponer como aparece en el modelo de suicidio de Joiner un malestar asociado a la sobrecarga que el paciente percibe que es en su familia, la soledad por el ingreso y la sintomatología ansioso-depresiva asociada. Además, aparece que las alteraciones de la imagen corporal producto de los tratamientos o la enfermedad pueden hacer que el paciente pierda parte de su integridad y dignidad personal, lo que se traduce en pérdidas funcionales y emociones negativas que pueden afectar la toma de decisiones en cuanto a los tratamientos. Por último, todo ello puede acabar en niveles de desesperanza altos y convertirse en un síndrome de desmoralización (Grassi, et al. 2010) que indica la presencia un malestar existencial, indefensión y pérdida del significado de la vida. Otro de los factores de riesgo más ampliamente estudiados ha sido el diagnóstico, en este estudio se ha encontrado que los pacientes con cáncer de pulmón y avanzado presentaban más malestar, de nuevo asociado al tipo de tratamiento y también a la peor calidad de vida (más fatiga, problemas respiratorios, dolor...). Con ello, hemos tratado de responder a la pregunta final sobre la expresión de la ideación suicida. Pero de nuevo, nos queda por aclarar el trasfondo de esa desesperanza. Como se expone más

adelante, estudios a nivel más cualitativo son requeridos en este campo donde cuentan el cómo, el cuándo, y el por qué del sufrimiento.

Estudio 4. Capítulo de libro. La enfermedad oncológica: conductas suicidas y factores de riesgo asociados a su evolución

Este trabajo expone una descripción de la situación actual de las relaciones entre las conducta suicidas y la enfermedad oncológica. Desde una visión internacional, se presentan datos de la incidencia del cáncer y de las conductas suicidas en pacientes con cáncer. Los factores de riesgo principalmente involucrados en el desarrollo y mantenimiento de las conductas suicidas, como el nivel socio-económico, los tratamientos médicos, el tipo de tumor, etc. Se profundiza en la ideación suicida de los pacientes con cáncer desde un modelo interpersonal. Y finalmente, se introducen a las personas cuidadoras formales/informales como principal herramienta de apoyo social de los pacientes y cuáles son los riesgos de su relación (paciente-familiar/profesional). Para proporcionar ideas de autocuidado y tratamientos que puedan beneficiar tanto al paciente como a la persona cuidadora. Fomentando la prevención y la intervención del riesgo de malestar. En conclusión, se hace un repaso general de todo el estudio de la tesis de doctorado, centrando las ideas principales y algunas de las perspectivas futuras.

PERSPECTIVAS FUTURAS

Para finalizar, las perspectivas de investigación futuras deberían incluir más tipos de tratamientos para la ideación e intención suicida y las necesidades existenciales, sexuales y emocionales de los pacientes oncológicos. Además, es importante prestar más atención al crecimiento postraumático de los pacientes, los factores de protección y

la resiliencia, al ser un tipo de paciente que padece diferentes etapas de sufrimiento a lo largo del proceso de enfermedad. Y aun así, puede mostrar buenas estrategias de afrontamiento, buena recuperación y gran supervivencia. La repercusión que tienen los distintos factores de riesgo en la evolución de la enfermedad oncológica y su implicación en la ideación suicida depende en gran medida de las diferencias interpersonales y de los contextos socio-sanitarios, de ahí la importancia de trasladar las carencias de los instrumentos objetivos a niveles más cualitativos. La presencia de problemas de salud mental deja de manifiesto la relevancia de que los equipos de profesionales de la salud se coordinen y trabajen juntos por la persona y sus allegados. La prevención y los tratamientos óptimos favorecerán una mejor calidad de vida y junto con la información se fomenta la comprensión y ayuda desde los núcleos familiares y médicos fundamentales en el cuidado del paciente oncológico y que son claves en la prevención e intervención del riesgo suicida en pacientes oncológicos.

CONCLUSIONS

1. Need to identify oncological subpopulations with the highest risk of suicidal behavior. Patients with relapses and with non-localized tumors, with metastases and tumors of higher mortality (lung, brain, breast, etc.) appear to be at increased risk for suicidal behavior.
2. To define critical phases of the disease to develop prevention plans and provide appropriate treatments. Patients were at higher risk for suicidal behavior in the first days of diagnosis and in the final phase of life. Mainly, associated with the presence of mental disorders or high emotional distress, such as depression and anxiety.

3. The suicidal ideation was high in oncologic patients (25%). Three of every four patients had emotional distress.
4. Gender, age, and type of treatment are risk factors of suicidal ideation and psychological distress. We have found more suicidal ideation in women, over 60 years and in palliative treatments.
5. Suicidal ideation is associated with psychosocial variables such as lack of social support, feelings of burdensome, isolation and higher levels of hopelessness.
6. Although the presence of stressful events and personality traits are associated with a higher risk of suicidal behavior according to the literature, our results have not confirmed this association.
7. When studying quality of life and body image, we found that patients with more suicidal ideation or psychological distress present worse self-perceived health, worse body image and more physical symptoms.
8. Doubts arouse on the use of validity and reliability of the instruments. However, all of them, have been extensively used in oncological settings.
9. New studies are needed on psychopathology and suicide in oncologic patients.

CONCLUSIONES

1. Necesidad de identificar subpoblaciones con alto riesgo de conducta suicida. Los pacientes con recaídas y tumores no localizados, con metástasis y alta mortalidad (pulmón, cerebro, mama, etc.) parecen tener más riesgo de conducta suicida.
2. Definir las fases críticas de la enfermedad para desarrollar planes preventivos y proveer tratamientos apropiados. Los pacientes estaban a mayor riesgo de conductas suicidas durante los primeros días de tratamiento y la fase final de la vida. Principalmente, estaban asociados a trastornos mentales y alto malestar emocional como depresión y ansiedad.

3. La ideación suicida fue alta en un 25% de los pacientes con cáncer. Tres de cada cuatro pacientes tenían malestar psicológico
4. Sexo, edad y tipo de tratamiento están asociados a la ideación suicida y malestar psicológico. Se ha encontrado que la ideación es más alta en mujeres, mayores de 60 años y en tratamientos paliativos.
5. La ideación suicida está asociada a variables psicosociales como la falta de apoyo social, el sentimiento de carga, el aislamiento y la desesperanza.
6. La presencia de eventos estresantes y rasgos de personalidad no han estado significativamente asociados a la aparición de la ideación suicida, a pesar de lo que la literatura científica aporta.
7. El estudio de la calidad de vida y la imagen corporal nos facilita entender que a peores niveles de estas escalas, mayor malestar psicológico e ideación suicida
8. Existen dudas de la validez y fiabilidad de los instrumentos a nivel muestral.
9. Necesidad de nuevos estudios de los aspectos psicopatológicos y la ideación suicida en pacientes oncológicos.

6. BIBLIOGRAFÍA

- Aaronson, Neil K., Ahmedzai, Sam, Bergman, Bengt, Bullinger, Monika, Cull, Ann, Duez, Nicole J., & Takeda, Fumikazu. (1993). The european organization for research and treatment of cancer qlq-c30: A quality-of-life instrument for use in international clinical trials in oncology. *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*, 85(5), 365-376. doi: 10.1093/jnci/85.5.365
- Aguilar García-Iturraspe, E. I., Hidalgo Montesinos, M.D., Cano García, R., López Manzano, J.C., Campillo Agusti, M., & Hernández Martínez, M. (1995). Estudio prospectivo de la desesperanza en pacientes psicóticos: Características psicométricas de la escala de desesperanza de beck. *Anales de Psiquiatría*, 11(4), 121-125.
- Akechi, T, Okamura, H, Nakano, T, Akizuki, N, Okamura, M, Shimizu, K & Uchitomi, Y. (2010). Gender differences in factors associated with suicidal ideation in major depression among cancer patients. *Psycho-oncology*, 19(4), 384-389. doi: 10.1002/pon.1587
- Almanza-Muñoz, J. J., & Holland, J.C. (2000). Psico-oncología: Estado actual y perspectivas futuras. *Revista Instituto Cancerologia (Mex)*, 46(3).
- Amigo Vázquez, I., (2014). *Manual de Psicología de la Salud*. Madrid. Piramide.
- Andrés, A., & Halicioglu, F. (2010). Testing the hypothesis of the natural suicide rates. *Social Indicators Research*, 81, 455-496.
- Arraras, J.I., Pruja, E., Tjedor, M., Illarramendi, J.J., Dominguez, M.A., & Valerdi, J.J. (1995). El cuestionario de calidad de vida de la eortc qlq-c30 (versión 2.0). Estudio de validación para nuestro país con pacientes con cáncer de pulmón. *Revista de Oncología*, 1, 257-263.
- Arraras, JI, Arias, F, Tejedor, M, Pruja, E, Marcos, M, Martínez, E, & Valerdi, J. (2002). The eortc qlq-c30 (version 3.0) quality of life questionnaire: Validation study for spain with head and neck cancer patients. *Psycho-Oncology*, 11(3), 249-256.
- Arsenault-Lapierre, G., Kim, C., & Turecki, G. (2004). Psychiatric diagnoses in 3275 suicides: A meta-analysis. *BMC psychiatry*, 4(1), 37.
- Balci Sengul, M. C., Kaya, V., Sen, C. A., & Kaya, K. (2014). Association between suicidal ideation and behavior, and depression, anxiety, and perceived social support in cancer patients. *Medical Science Monitor*, 20, 329-336. doi: 10.12659/msm.889989
- Barbero, J. (2003). Hechos y valores en psicooncología. *Psicooncología*(1), 21-37.
- Barzilay, S. & Apter, A. (2014). Psychological models of suicide. *Archives of Suicide Research*. 18(4):295-312. doi: 10.1080/13811118.2013.824825.
- Bayés, R. (1998). Psicología del sufrimiento y de la muerte. *Anuario de psicología*.
- Beck, A. T., Kovacs, M., & Weissman, A. (1979). Assessment of suicidal intention: The scale for suicide ideation. *Journal of consulting and clinical psychology*, 47(2), 343-352.
- Beck, A. T., Steer, Robert A., Ball, Roberta, & Ranieri, William F. (1996). Comparison of beck depression inventories-ia and-ii in psychiatric outpatients. *Journal of Personality Assessment*, 67(3), 588-597. doi: 10.1207/s15327752jpa6703_13
- Beck, A. T., Weissman, Arlene, Lester, David, & Trexler, Larry. (1974). The measurement of pessimism: The hopelessness scale. *Journal of consulting and clinical psychology*, 42(6), 861.
- Benyamini, Y. (2008). Self-ratings of health and longevity: A health psychologist's viewpoint on epidemiological findings. *European Health Psychologist*, 10(1), 10-12.
- Botega, N. J., Soares de Azevedo, R. C., Mauro, M. L., Mitsuushi, G., Fanger, P., Lima, D. & Franco da Silva, Vi. (2010). Factors associated with suicide ideation among medically and surgically hospitalized patients. *General hospital psychiatry*, 32(4), 396-400. doi: 10.1016/j.genhosppsych.2010.02.004

- Breitbart, W., Rosenfeld, B., Pessin, H., & et al. (2000). Depression, hopelessness, and desire for hastened death in terminally ill patients with cancer. *JAMA*, 284(22), 2907-2911. doi: 10.1001/jama.284.22.2907
- Brugha, T. S., & Cragg, D. (1990). The list of threatening experiences: The reliability and validity of a brief life events questionnaire. *Acta Psychiatrica Scandinavica*, 82(1), 77-81.
- Callahan, D. (2000). Death and the research imperative. *The New England journal of medicine*, 342(9), 654.
- Camidge, D.R., Stockton, D.L., Frame, S., Wood, R., Bain, M., & Bateman, D.N. (2007). Hospital admissions and deaths relating to deliberate self-harm and accidents within 5 years of a cancer diagnosis: A national study in scotland, uk. *British journal of cancer*, 96(5), 752-757.
- Comeche, M.I., Diaz, M.I., & Vallejo, M.A. (1995). Cuestionarios, inventarios, escalas. Ansiedad, depresión y habilidades sociales. *Madrid: Fundación Universidad-Empresa*, 194-200.
- Costantini, A., Pompili, M., Innamorati, M., Zezza, M. C., Di Carlo, A., Sher, L., & Girardi, P. (2014). Psychiatric pathology and suicide risk in patients with cancer. *Journal of psychosocial oncology*, 32(4), 383-395. doi: 10.1080/07347332.2014.917136
- Chang, C., Hayes, R.D., Broadbent, M.T.M., Hotopf, M., Davies, E., Møller, H., & Stewart, R. (2014). A cohort study on mental disorders, stage of cancer at diagnosis and subsequent survival. *BMJ Open*, 4(1). doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2013-004295
- Chochinov, H. M. (2001). Depression in cancer patients. *The lancet oncology*, 2(8), 499-505.
- Cruzado, J. A. (2003). La formación en psicooncología. *Psicooncología*(1), 9-19.
- Cruzado, J. A. (2014). Manual de Psicooncología: Tratamientos psicológicos en pacientes con cáncer. Madrid. Pirámide
- Chung, K.H., & Lin, H.C. (2010). Methods of suicide among cancer patients: A nationwide population-based study. *Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior*, 40(2), 107-
- Delgado-Guay, M., Parsons, H., Li, Z., Palmer, J., & Bruera, E. (2009). Symptom distress in advanced cancer patients with anxiety and depression in the palliative care setting. *Supportive care in cancer*, 17(5), 573-579. doi: 10.1007/s00520-008-0529-7
- Diaz-Frutos, D., Baca-García, E., Mahillo-Fernández, I. García-Foncillas, J. & López-Castroman, I. (2015). Suicide ideation among oncologic patients in a Spanish ward. *Psychology, Health and Medicine*, 21, 261-271. doi: 10.1080/13548506.2015.1058960
- Diaz-Frutos, D., Baca-García, E., I. García-Foncillas, J. & López-Castroman, I. (2016). Predictors of psychological distress in advanced cancer patients under palliative treatments. *European Journal of Cancer Care*. 25,608-615. Doi: 10.1111/ecc.12521
- Diaz-Frutos, D., Baca-Garcia, E., Garcia-Foncillas, J. & Méndez-Bustos, P. (2017) Review of completed suicide and suicidal ideation in oncologic patients from a geographic classification. *Cuadernos de medicina psicosomática y psiquiatría de enlace*. (Manuscrito no publicado. Aceptado N.121).
- Die-Trill, M. (2003). Influencia de la cultura en la experiencia del cáncer. *Psicooncología*(1), 39.
- Durkheim, E. (1989). *El suicidio* (Vol. 37): Ediciones Akal.
- ENS. (2013). Encuesta Nacional de Salud, 2013, from <http://www.ine.es/jaxi/menu.do?type=pcaxis&path=/t15/p419&file=inebase>. Recuperado 15 de junio de 2014

- Fang, C. K., Chang, M. C., Chen, P. J., Lin, C. C., Chen, G. S., Lin, J. & Li, Y. C. (2014). A correlational study of suicidal ideation with psychological distress, depression, and demoralization in patients with cancer. *Support Care Cancer*, 22(12), 3165-3174. doi: 10.1007/s00520-014-2290-4
- Ferlay, J., Soerjomataram, I., Ervik, M., Dikshit, R., Eser, S., Mathers, C. & Bray, F. . (2012). Informe de las cifras del cáncer en España 2014-globocan 2012 Retrieved from http://www.seom.org/seomcms/images/stories/recursos/Las_cifras_del_cancer_2014.pdf website:
- Ferlay, J., Steliarova-Foucher, E., Lortet-Tieulent, J., Rosso, S., Coebergh, J. W. W., Comber, H. & Bray, F. (2012). Cancer incidence and mortality patterns in Europe: Estimates for 40 countries in 2012. *European Journal of Cancer*, 49(6), 1374-1403. doi: 10.1016/j.ejca.2012.12.027
- García-Nieto, R., Parra Uribe, I., Palao, D., Lopez-Castroman, J., Sáiz, P. A., García-Portilla, M.P. & Baca-García, E. (2012). Protocolo breve de evaluación del suicidio, fiabilidad interexaminadores. [10.1016/j.rpsm.2011.10.001]. *TITLEREVISTA*, 05(01), 24-36.
- Gomez-Campelo, P., Bragado-Alvarez, C., Hernandez-Lloreda, M. J., & Sanchez-Bernardos, M. L. (2014). The Spanish version of the body image scale (s-bis): Psychometric properties in a sample of breast and gynaecological cancer patients. *Support Care Cancer*. doi: 10.1007/s00520-014-2383-0
- Goodwin, F., & Jamison, K. R. (2007). *Manic-depressive illness: Bipolar disorders and recurrent depression*: Oxford University Press.
- Grassi, L., Travado, L., Gil, F., Sabato, S., Rossi, E., Tomamichel, M. & Nanni, Maria G. (2010). Hopelessness and related variables among cancer patients in the southern European psycho-oncology study (sepos). *Psychosomatics*, 51(3), 201-207. doi: 10.1016/S0033-3182(10)70686-1
- Hay, J., & Passik, S. (2000). The cancer patient with borderline personality disorder: Suggestions for symptom-focused management in the medical setting. *Psycho-oncology*, 9(2), 91-100. doi: 10.1002/(SICI)1099-1611(200003/04)9:2<91::AID-PON437>3.0.CO;2-8
- Herrero, M. J., Blanch, J., Peri, J. M., De Pablo, J., Pintor, L., & Bulbena, A. (2003). A validation study of the hospital anxiety and depression scale (hads) in a Spanish population. *Gen Hosp Psychiatry*, 25(4), 277-283.
- Holland, J. C., & Alici, Y. (2010). Management of distress in cancer patients. *Journal of Supportive Oncology*, 8(1), 4-12.
- Hopwood, P., Fletcher, I., Lee, A., & Al Ghazal, S. (2001). A body image scale for use with cancer patients. *European Journal of Cancer*, 37(2), 189-197.
- Instituto Nacional de Estadística (INE). (2014). Datos sociodemográficos de enfermedades oncológicas en España durante 2012-2014. Extraído en web www.ine.es en abril de 2015
- Irving, G. and Lloyd-Williams, M. (2010). Depression in advanced cancer. *European Journal of Oncology Nursing*, 14, 395-399. doi:10.1016/j.ejon.2010.01.026
- Joiner, T. E., Jr., Van Orden, K. A., Witte, T. K., Selby, E. A., Ribeiro, J. D., Lewis, R., & Rudd, M. D. (2009). Main predictions of the interpersonal-psychological theory of suicidal behavior: Empirical tests in two samples of young adults. *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*, 118(3), 634-646. doi: 10.1037/a0016500
- Kissane, D. W., Clarke, D. M., Ikin, J., Bloch, S., Smith, G. C., Vitetta, L., & McKenzie, D. P. (1998). Psychological morbidity and quality of life in Australian women with early-stage breast cancer: A cross-sectional survey. *Medical Journal of Australia*, 169(4), 192-196.
- Kondo, N., Kawachi, I., Subramanian, S., Takeda, Y., & Yamagata, Z. (2008). Do social comparisons explain the association between income inequality and health?:

- Relative deprivation and perceived health among male and female Japanese individuals. *Social Science & Medicine*, 67(6), 982-987.
- Krysinska, K., & Lester, D. (2010). Post-traumatic stress disorder and suicide risk: A systematic review. *Archives of Suicide Research*, 14(1), 1-23.
- Kunin, H., Patenaude, A. and Grier, H. (1995). Suicide risk in pediatric cancer patients: An exploratory study. *Psychooncology*, 4: 149-55.
- Lillberg, K., Verkasalo, P., Kaprio, J., Teppo, L., Helenius, H., & Koskenvuo, M. (2003). Stressful life events and risk of breast cancer in 10,808 women: A cohort study. *American Journal of Epidemiology*, 157(5), 415-423. doi: 10.1093/aje/kwg002
- López-Ibor, J., Pérez Urdániz, A., & Rubio Larrosa, V. (1996). Examen internacional de los trastornos de la personalidad (ipde): Módulo dms-iv y cie-10. *Madrid: Meditor*.
- Loranger, A. W., Sartorius, N., Andreoli, A., & et al. (1994). The international personality disorder examination: The world health organization/alcohol, drug abuse, and mental health administration international pilot study of personality disorders. *Archives of General Psychiatry*, 51(3), 215-224. doi: 10.1001/archpsyc.1994.03950030051005
- Mahalik, J.R. (2011). The Status of Men's Physical Health: A Cause for Concern for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. In *Men at risk: The Physical, Mental and Social Health of Men in Massachusetts*. Clark University. Mosakowski Institute for Public Enterprise
- Malvezzi, M., Bertuccio, P., Levi, F., La Vecchia, C., & Negri, E. (2013). European cancer mortality predictions for the year 2013. *Annals of oncology*. doi: 10.1093/annonc/mdt010
- Mann, J. J., Waternaux, C., Haas, G. L., & Malone, K. M. (1999). Toward a clinical model of suicidal behavior in psychiatric patients. *American Journal of Psychiatry*, 156(2), 181-189.
- Massie, M. J. (2004). Prevalence of depression in patients with cancer. *Journal of National Cancer Institute Monographs*(32), 57-71. doi: 10.1093/jncimonographs/lgh014
- Mendez-Bustos, P., de Leon-Martinez, V., Miret, M., Baca-Garcia, E., & Lopez-Castroman, J. (2013). Suicide reattempters: A systematic review. *Harvard review of psychiatry*, 21(6), 281-295.
- Mendez-Bustos, P. & Diaz-Frutos, D. (2016). La enfermedad oncológica: conductas suicidas y factores de riesgo asociados a su evolución. En C. Rojas Jara & Y. Gutierrez Valdes (Ed.) *Psicooncología: Aportes a la comprensión a la terapéutica*. Chile: Nueva Mirada.
- Miller, M., Mogun, H., Azrael, D., Hempstead, K. and Solomon, D. (2008). Cancer and the Risk of Suicide in Older Americans. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 26, 4720-4724. doi:10.1200/JCO.2007.14.3990.
- Miovic, M., & Block, S. (2007). Psychiatric disorders in advanced cancer. *Cancer*, 110(8), 1665-1676. doi: 10.1002/cncr.22980
- Miret, M., Caballero, F., Huerta-Ramírez, R., Moneta, M.V., Olaya, B., Chatterji, S. & Ayuso-Mateos, J.L. (2014). Factors associated with suicidal ideation and attempts in Spain for different age groups. Prevalence before and after the onset of the economic crisis. *Journal of affective disorders*, 163, 1-9. doi: 10.1016/j.jad.2014.03.045
- Miró, E., Martínez, P., & Arriaza, R. (2006). Influencia de la cantidad y la calidad subjetiva de sueño en la ansiedad y el estado de ánimo deprimido. *Salud Mental*, 29(2), 31.
- Misono, S., Weiss, N. S., Fann, J. R., Redman, M., & Yueh, B. (2008). Incidence of suicide in persons with cancer. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 26(29), 4731-4738. doi: 10.1200/jco.2007.13.8941
- Mitchell, A. J., Chan, M., Bhatti, H., Halton, M., Grassi, L., Johansen, C., & Meader, N. (2011). Prevalence of depression, anxiety, and adjustment disorder in oncological,

- haematological, and palliative-care settings: A meta-analysis of 94 interview-based studies. *Lancet Oncology*, 12(2), 160-174. doi: 10.1016/s1470-2045(11)70002-x
- Mystakidou, K., Rosenfeld, B., Parpa, E., Katsouda, E., Tsilika, E., Galanos, A., & Vlahos, L. (2005). Desire for death near the end of life: The role of depression, anxiety and pain. *General Hospital Psychiatry*, 27(4), 258-262. doi: 10.1016/j.genhosppsych.2005.02.004
- Mystakidou, K., Tsilika, E., Parpa, E., Katsouda, E., Galanos, A., & Vlahos, L. (2005). Assessment of anxiety and depression in advanced cancer patients and their relationship with quality of life. *Quality of life research*, 14(8), 1825-1833. doi: 10.1007/s11136-005-4324-3
- Mystakidou, K., Tsilika, Eleni, Parpa, Efi, Pathiaki, Maria, Galanos, Antonis, & Vlahos, Lambros. (2008). The relationship between quality of life and levels of hopelessness and depression in palliative care. *Depression and Anxiety*, 25(9), 730-736. doi: 10.1002/da.20319
- Nock, M., Borges, G., Bromet, E., Alonso, J., Angermeyer, M., Beautrais, A. & Gluzman, S. (2008). Cross-national prevalence and risk factors for suicidal ideation, plans and attempts. *The British Journal of Psychiatry*, 192(2), 98-105.
- Nock, M., Hwang, I., Sampson, N., & Kessler, R. (2010). Mental disorders, comorbidity and suicidal behavior: Results from the national comorbidity survey replication. *Molecular psychiatry*, 15(8), 868-876.
- O'Connor, R.C., Platt, S., & Gordon, J. (Eds.) (2011). *The International Handbook of Suicide Prevention: Research, Evidence and Practice*. Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell. ISBN: 0470683848.
- Passik, S. D., & Theobald, D. E. (2000). Managing addiction in advanced cancer patients: Why bother? *J Pain Symptom Manage*, 19(3), 229-234.
- Pitman, A, Osborn, D, King, M, and Erlangsen, A. Effects of suicide bereavement on mental health and suicide risk. *Lancet Psychiatry*. 2014; [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S2215-0366\(14\)70224-X](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S2215-0366(14)70224-X).
- Pukkila, K., Hakko, H., Väisänen, E., Särkioja, T., & Räsänen, P. (2000). Does alcohol drinking have an influence on suicides in cancer sufferers? A population-based study of 1515 suicide victims. *Japanese Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 30(12), 568-570. doi: 10.1093/jjco/hyd136
- Quill, T. E. (2008). Suicidal thoughts and actions in cancer patients: The time for exploration is now. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 26(29), 4705-4707. doi: 10.1200/jco.2008.18.3129
- Pinquart, M., & Sörensen, S. (2003). Differences between caregivers and noncaregivers in psychological health and physical health: A meta-analysis. *Psychology and aging*, 18(2), 250.
- Rajmohan, V., & Kumar, S. K. (2013). Psychiatric morbidity, pain perception, and functional status of chronic pain patients in palliative care. *Indian Journal of Palliative Care*, 19(3), 146-151. doi: 10.4103/0973-1075.121527
- Reich, M., Lesur, A., & Perdrizet-Chevallier, C. (2008). Depression, quality of life and breast cancer: A review of the literature. *Breast Cancer Res Treat*, 110(1), 9-17. doi: 10.1007/s10549-007-9706-5
- Recklitis, C.J., Diller, L.R., Li, X, Najita, J, Robison, L. L., & Zeltzer, Lonnie. (2010). Suicide ideation in adult survivors of childhood cancer: A report from the childhood cancer survivor study. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 28(4), 655-661. doi: 10.1200/jco.2009.22.8635
- Rodríguez-Sanz, M., Carrillo-Santistevé, P., & Borrell, C. (2005). Desigualdades sociales en la salud, los estilos de vida y la utilización de servicios sanitarios en las ccaa 1993-2003. Observatorios de salud de la mujer y del SNS. Agencia de Calidad. Ministerio de Sanidad y Consumo.

- Sánchez-López, M. P., Rivas-Diez, R., & Cuéllar-Flores, I. (2013). Masculinity and feminity as predictors of tobacco and alcohol consupcion in spanish university students. *Salud y drogas*, 13 (1), 15-22.
- Sánchez, M. J., Payer, T., De Angelis, R., Larrañaga, N., Capocaccia, R., Martinez, C., & Group, for the CIBERESP Working. (2010). Cancer incidence and mortality in spain: Estimates and projections for the period 1981–2012. *Annals of oncology*, 21(suppl 3), iii30-iii36. doi: 10.1093/annonc/mdq090
- Sanz, I., García-Vera, M.P., Espinosa, R., Fortún, M. , & Vázquez, C. (2005). Adaptación española del inventario para la depresión de beck-ii (bdi-ii): 3. Propiedades psicométricas en pacientes con trastornos psicológicos. *Clínica y Salud*, 16, 121-142.
- Singer, S., Kuhnt, S., Gotze, H., Hauss, J., Hinz, A., Liebmann, A. & Schwarz, R. (2009). Hospital anxiety and depression scale cutoff scores for cancer patients in acute care. *British journal of cancer*, 100(6), 908-912. doi: 10.1038/sj.bjc.6604952
- Singh-Manoux, A., Guéguen, A., Martikainen, P., Ferrie, J., Marmot, M., & Shipley, M. (2007). Self-rated health and mortality: Short-and long-term associations in the whitehall ii study. *Psychosomatic medicine*, 69(2), 138-143.
- Skarstein, J., Aass, N., Fosså, S. D., Skovlund, E., & Dahl, A. A. (2000). Anxiety and depression in cancer patients: Relation between the hospital anxiety and depression scale and the european organization for research and treatment of cancer core quality of life questionnaire. *Journal of psychosomatic research*, 49(1), 27-34.
- Spoletini, I., Gianni, W., Caltagirone, C., Madaio, R., Repetto, L., & Spalletta, G. (2011). Suicide and cancer: Where do we go from here? *Critical Reviews in Oncology/Hematology*, 78(3), 206-219. doi: 10.1016/j.critrevonc.2010.05.005
- Walker, J., Hansen, C., Martin, P., Symeonides, S., Ramessur, R., Murray, G., & Sharpe, M. (2014). Prevalence, associations, and adequacy of treatment of major depression in patients with cancer: A cross-sectional analysis of routinely collected clinical data. *The Lancet Psychiatry*, 1(5), 343-350.
- Warmenhoven, F., van Rijswijk, E., van Weel, C., Prins, J., & Vissers, K. (2012). Low prevalence of depressive disorder in ambulatory advanced cancer patients using the schedules for clinical assessment in neuropsychiatry (scan 2.1). *Journal of Affective Disorders*, 136(3), 1209-1211. doi: 10.1016/j.jad.2011.11.017
- Weinberger, M. I., Bruce, M. L., Roth, A. J., Breitbart, W., & Nelson, C. J. (2011). Depression and barriers to mental health care in older cancer patients. *International Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry*, 26(1), 21-26. doi: 10.1002/gps.2497
- Zigmond, A. S., & Snaith, R. P. (1983). The hospital anxiety and depression scale. *Acta Psychiatrica Scandinava*, 67(6), 361-370.

ANEXOS

FIGURAS Y TABLAS

Figura 1. La psicooncología como disciplina.....	p.16
Tabla 1. Tumores más frecuentes en ambos sexos en España en 2012.....	p.18
Tabla 2.Incidencia, Mortalidad y Prevalencia a 5 años en ambos sexos en España en 2012.....	p.19
Tabla 3.Incidencia, Mortalidad y Prevalencia a 5 años en hombres en España en 2012.....	p.20
Tabla 4. Incidencia, Mortalidad y Prevalencia a 5 años en mujeres en España en 2012.....	p.21
Tabla 5. Modelos de la conducta de salud.....	p.30
Tabla 6. Modelos psicológicos del suicidio.....	p.31



Capio

Comité Ético de Investigación Clínica



EO 13/2012

INFORME DEL COMITE ÉTICO DE INVESTIGACION CLINICA

Dr. Javier Bécares Martínez, Secretario del COMITE ÉTICO DE INVESTIGACION CLINICA DE LA FUNDACION JIMENEZ DIAZ

CERTIFICA:


Que en la reunión del CEIC-FJD que tuvo lugar el día 28 de febrero de 2012 (acta nº 02/112) se evaluó el estudio referido a continuación y se decidió:

A P R O B A R

La propuesta para que se realicen los estudios observacionales titulados: **"Ideación suicida en pacientes oncológicos"** y **"Rasgos de personalidad, síndromes clínicos y género en cuidadores/as formales"**, el cual está previsto que sea llevado a cabo en la Fundación Jiménez Díaz por **D. Daniel Díaz Frutos** en los Servicios de **Oncología y Psiquiatría**.

Además, hace constar que:

1. En dicha reunión se cumplieron los requisitos establecidos en la legislación vigente –Real decreto 223/2004 y Decreto 39/94 de la CAM– para que la decisión del citado CEIC sea válida.
2. El Estudio reúne las normas éticas estándar de nuestra Institución para la realización de este tipo de estudios.
3. Que se cumplen los preceptos éticos formulados en la Orden SAS 3470/2009 y la Declaración de Helsinki de la Asociación Médica mundial sobre principios éticos para las investigaciones médicas en seres humanos y en sus posteriores revisiones, así como aquellos exigidos por la normativa aplicable en función de las características del estudio.
4. El CEIC-FJD, tanto en su composición, como en los PNT cumple con las normas BPC.
5. La composición actual del CEIC-FJD es la siguiente:
 - Dra. M^a José Almodóvar Carretón. *Farmacéutica de Atención Primaria*
 - Dra. Carmen Ayuso García. *Médico Asistencial. Miembro Comité de Investigación.*
 - Dr. Javier Bécares Martínez. *(Secretario). Farmacéutico de la FJD*
 - Dra. Miriam Blanco Rodríguez. *Médico Asistencial (Pediatra)*
 - Dra. Macarena Bonilla Porras. *(Vicepresidenta). Farmacéutico de la FJD*
 - Dr. Emilio Calvo Crespo. *(Presidente). Médico Asistencial.*
 - Dr. Angel Campos Ginés. *Médico Asistencial*
 - Dña. Teresa Castillo Sánchez. *DUE*
 - Dr. Ricardo Fernández Roblas. *Médico Asistencial*
 - Dra. Ana León Carbonero. *Médico Asistencial*
 - D. José Ángel Martínez Peláez. *Lego no vinculado a la Institución*
 - D. Manuel Matamoros Fernández. *Lego no vinculada a la Institución*
 - D. Luis Ortega Alba. *Abogado*
 - Dr. Javier Plaza Aranz. *Médico Asistencial*
 - Dr. Germán Peces Barba. *Médico Asistencial. Miembro Comité de Investigación*
 - Dra. Francisca Rodríguez Hervás. *Médico de Atención Primaria*
 - Dr. Francisco Javier Ruiz Homillos. *Médico Asistencial*
 - Dra. Olga Sánchez Pernaute. *Médico Asistencial*
 - Dra. Aranzazu Sancho López. *Farmacóloga Clínico*
6. Asimismo, hacemos constar que no existe contraprestación económica ni para el centro ni para el investigador.

 <p style="text-align: center;">FUNDACIÓN Jiménez Díaz Centro</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SERVICIO DE PSIQUIATRIA CONSENTIMIENTO INFORMADO PARA EL ESTUDIO "PREVENCIÓN DEL MALESTAR PSICOLÓGICO EN PACIENTES INGRESADOS"</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ETIQUETA IDENTIFICATIVA PACIENTE</p>				
<p>MEDICO QUE REALIZA LA INDICACION:</p> <p>MEDICO RESPONSABLE DE LA EXPLORACION:</p>	<p>SERVICIO / ESPECIALIDAD:</p> <p>CENTRO:</p>				
<p>DIAGNOSTICO:</p> <p>PROCEDIMIENTO TERAPÉUTICO PROPUESTO:</p>					
<p>El objeto de este estudio es detectar los factores psicológicos y malestar psicológico que están implicados en la enfermedad de pacientes ingresados en el Hospital Fundación Jiménez-Díaz. Su consentimiento será voluntario y confidencial permitiendo que se utilicen los datos de sus evaluaciones psicométricas para la investigación de factores que puedan estar implicados en la evolución de la enfermedad.</p> <p>En que consiste la participación</p> <p>Su participación en este estudio implica:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Decidir no participar, cambiar su decisión y retirar el consentimiento en cualquier momento, sin que por ello se altere la relación con su médico ni se produzca perjuicio alguno en su tratamiento. 2. Responder a unos cuestionarios sobre el estado de ánimo, personalidad, acontecimientos vitales recientes (problemas familiares, económicos...), el grado de apoyo social (pareja, familiar o amigos). 3. Contestar estos cuestionarios lleva alrededor de 20-30 minutos. 4. Permitir a los investigadores recoger sus datos personales relevantes para el estudio. <p>Beneficios y riesgos de participar en este estudio</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A corto plazo los resultados de este estudio no supondrán un beneficio directamente para Ud. 2. Este estudio puede ayudar a identificar aspectos de la enfermedad y su relación con los pensamientos autolíticos contribuyendo a mejorar el diagnóstico, prevención y tratamiento. 3. El/la participante no recibirá ningún beneficio económico en el futuro. 4. Los riesgos de participar en este estudio son inexistentes. 					
<p style="text-align: center;">CONSENTIMIENTO</p> <p>Yo, D^a/D^o con DNI como (marcar lo que proceda): <input type="checkbox"/> PACIENTE/ <input type="checkbox"/> REPRESENTANTE LEGAL O TUTOR una vez ha sido debidamente informado por el médico de todos los aspectos arriba mencionados, y que comprendo el alcance y riesgos de la prueba, expreso de forma libre, voluntaria y consciente, y en pleno uso de las capacidades que me facultan para ello, mi CONSENTIMIENTO para el procedimiento diagnóstico/terapéutico propuesto, conociendo que en cualquier momento puedo revocar libremente este Consentimiento.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px; vertical-align: top;"> <p>Manifiesto mi consentimiento, Firma del paciente/Representante legal o tutor</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px; vertical-align: top;"> <p>Firma del médico responsable</p> <p>Nº Colegiado</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px; vertical-align: top;"> <p>Fecha</p> </td> <td style="padding: 5px; vertical-align: top;"> <p>Fecha</p> </td> </tr> </table>		<p>Manifiesto mi consentimiento, Firma del paciente/Representante legal o tutor</p>	<p>Firma del médico responsable</p> <p>Nº Colegiado</p>	<p>Fecha</p>	<p>Fecha</p>
<p>Manifiesto mi consentimiento, Firma del paciente/Representante legal o tutor</p>	<p>Firma del médico responsable</p> <p>Nº Colegiado</p>				
<p>Fecha</p>	<p>Fecha</p>				

PROTOCOLO PSICO - ONCOLOGÍA

ANEXO I DATOS PSICOSOCIALES

CORRECCIÓN DE ERRORES		
Mujer	●	En caso de error marcar la casilla equivocada con una cruz.
Varón	✕	

0. FECHA DE VALORACIÓN (DD'/MM'/AA'A''A''')

Día	D	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
	D'	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
Mes	M	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
	M'	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
Año	A	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
	A'	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
	A''	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
	A'''	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

▽ SOCIODEMOGRÁFICOS

1. SEXO Mujer O

Varón O

2. FECHA NACIMIENTO (DD'/MM'/AA'A''A''')

Día	D	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
	D'	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
Mes	M	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
	M'	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
Año	A	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
	A'	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
	A''	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
	A'''	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

3. PAIS ORIGEN: ÁREA OMS.

CODIGOS DE PAÍSES	
O	España: 4280
O	Francia: 4080
O	Italia: 4180
O	Marruecos: 1310
O	Colombia: 2130
O	Ecuador: 2180
O	Perú: 2370
O	Rumania: 4270
O	Otros: _____

4. GRUPO ÉTNICO (Elegir una o dos opciones)

☐ O Caucásico/blanco

☐ O Gitano

☐ O Negro

☐ O Asiático

☐ O Magrebí

☐ O Hispanoamericano

5. CONVIVENCIA (Nº): _____

	SI	NO
Padre	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Madre	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hijos	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hermanos	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Familiares	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cónyuge/pareja	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Amigos	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Solo	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Institución	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. NÚMERO DE HERMANOS (excluyendo al paciente)

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

7. ESTADO CIVIL

- ☐ Soltero
- ☐ Casado/Convivencia conjunta más de 6 meses
- ☐ Separado/Divorciado
- ☐ Viudo

8. NÚMERO DE HIJOS

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

9. CONVIVENCIA

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

10. PERSONAS A CARGO (Nº): _____

	SI	NO
PADRE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
MADRE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
HIJOS	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
HERMANOS	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
FAMILIARES	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
PAREJA	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

11. AÑOS DE ESTUDIOS (AA')

A	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
A'	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9



NIVEL DE ESTUDIOS	
E. PRIMARIOS	<input type="radio"/>
E. SECUNDARIOS	<input type="radio"/>
BACHILLERATO	<input type="radio"/>
UNIVERSITARIOS	<input type="radio"/>
DOCTORADO	<input type="radio"/>

12. SITUACIÓN LABORAL

- ☐ Paro sin subsidio
- ☐ Paro con subsidio
- ☐ Invalidez permanente
- ☐ Incapacidad temporal
- ☐ Activo
- ☐ Jubilado

13. NIVEL ECONÓMICO DE LA FAMILIA

- ☐ < de 500€
- ☐ Entre 500 y 1000€
- ☐ Entre 1500€ y 1500€
- ☐ Entre 2000€ y 3000€
- ☐ Entre 3000 y 4000€
- ☐ Más de 4000 €

14. ORIENTACIÓN SEXUAL

- ☐ Heterosexual
- ☐ Bisexual
- ☐ Homosexual

15. CREENCIAS RELIGIOSASSí ☐ No ☐☐ Católico☐ Judío☐ MusulmánPracticante: Sí ☐☐ Protestantes☐ Otros: _____No ☐**▼ ANTECEDENTES MÉDICOS****16. ANTECEDENTES ONCOLÓGICOS FAMILIARES**

Antecedentes familiares	NO	SI	NS/N C	TIPO DE CÁNCER
Abuelo materno	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Abuela materna	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Abuelo paterno	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Abuela paterna	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Madre	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	

Padre	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Hermano 1	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Hermano 2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Hermano 3	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Hermano 4	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Hermano 5	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Pareja	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Hijo 1	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Hijo 2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Hijo 3	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Hijo 4	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Hijo 5	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Hijo 6	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	

17. ANTECEDENTES PSIQUIÁTRICOS FAMILIARES

	Esquizofrenia	Trastorno bipolar	Trastorno de depresión mayor	Trastorno de ansiedad	Trastorno de personalidad	TCA	Insomnio	Abuso de sustancias	Trastorno al inicio de la infancia	Trastorno Adaptativo
Abuelo ma	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Abuela ma	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Abuelo pa	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Abuela pa	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Madre	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Padre	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hermano 1	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hermano 2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paciente	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hijo 1	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hijo 2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hijo 3	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Primo 1	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Primo 2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

18. TRATAMIENTO ACTUAL (marcar las que precise)

- ☐ Psiquiatra
- ☐ Fármacos
- ☐ Psicólogo
- ☐ Otro
- ☐ Ninguno

▽ SUICIDIO

▪ ANTECEDENTES:

1. Intento Suicidio en la familia

	SI	NO
Padre	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Madre	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hermanos	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Abuelos	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Otros_____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

2. Suicidio consumado familia

	SI	NO
Padre	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Madre	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hermanos	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Abuelos	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Otros_____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

3. Suicidio consumado en el medio (últimos 6 meses)

	SI	NO
Escuela	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Trabajo	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Familia	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Amigos	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Proximidad geográfica	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Medios de comunicación	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

▪ HISTORIA DEL SUICIDIO**4. Número de intentos previos**

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 +

5. Edad del 1º (EE')

E	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
E'	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

6. Intentos en el último año

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

7. Edad del último (EE')

E	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
E'	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

HISTORIA ACTUAL**8. Deseo de muerte**

	SI	NO
Ideación	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Plan	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Intento	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

ESCALA DE DESESPERANZA DE BECK (BHS)

1. Espero el futuro con esperanza y entusiasmo.	V	<input type="radio"/>
	F	<input type="radio"/>
2. Puedo darme por vencido, renunciar, ya que no puedo hacer mejor las cosas por mí mismo.	V	<input type="radio"/>
	F	<input type="radio"/>
3. Cuando las cosas van mal me alivia saber que las cosas no pueden permanecer tiempo así.	V	<input type="radio"/>
	F	<input type="radio"/>
4. No puedo imaginar cómo será mi vida dentro de 10 años.	V	<input type="radio"/>
	F	<input type="radio"/>

5. Tengo bastante tiempo libre para llevar a cabo las cosas que quisiera poder hacer.	V	O
	F	O
6. En el futuro, espero conseguir lo que me pueda interesar.	V	O
	F	O
7. Mi futuro me parece oscuro.	V	O
	F	O
8. Espero más cosas buenas de la vida que lo que la gente suele conseguir por término medio.	V	O
	F	O
9. No logro hacer que las cosas cambien, y no existen razones para creer que pueda en el futuro.	V	O
	F	O
10. Mis pasadas experiencias me han preparado bien para mi futuro.	V	O
	F	O
11. Todo lo que puedo ver por delante de mí es más desagradable que agradable.	V	O
	F	O
12. No espero conseguir lo que realmente deseo.	V	O
	F	O
13. Cuando miro hacia el futuro, espero que seré más feliz de lo que soy ahora.	V	O
	F	O
14. Las cosas no marchan como yo quisiera.	V	O
	F	O
15. Tengo una gran confianza en el futuro.	V	O
	F	O
16. Nunca consigo lo que deseo, por lo que es absurdo desear cualquier cosa.	V	O
	F	O
17. Es muy improbable que pueda lograr una satisfacción real en el	V	O

futuro.	F	O
18. El futuro me parece vago e incierto.	V	O
	F	O
19. Espero más bien épocas buenas que malas.	V	O
	F	O
20. No merece la pena que intente conseguir algo que desee, porque probablemente no lo lograré.	V	O
	F	O

ESCALA DE DEPRESIÓN DE BECK (BDI-II)

1. TRISTEZA:

- ☐ No me siento triste (0)
- ☐ Me siento triste gran part del tiempo (1)
- ☐ Estoy triste todo el tiempo (2)
- ☐ Estoy tan triste o soy tan infeliz que no puedo soportarlo (3)

2. PESIMISMO:

- ☐ No estoy desalentado respecto a mi futuro (0)
- ☐ Me siento más desalentado respecto de mi futuro que lo que solía estarlo(1)
- ☐ No espero que las cosas funcionen para mi (2)

- ☐ Siento que no hay esperanza para mi futuro y que sólo puede empeorar (3)

3. FRACASO:

- ☐ No me siento como un fracasado (0)
- ☐ He fracasado más de lo que hubiera debido (1)
- ☐ Cuando miro hacia atrás veo muchos fracasos (2)
- ☐ Siento que como persona soy un fracaso total (3)

4. PÉRDIDA DE PLACER:

- ☐ Obtengo tanto placer como siempre por las cosas de las que disfruto (0)
- ☐ No disfruto tanto de las cosas como solía hacerlo (1)
- ☐ Obtengo muy poco placer de las cosas de las que solía disfrutar (2)
- ☐ No puedo obtener ningún placer de las cosas que solía disfrutar (3)

5. SENTIMIENTOS DE CULPA:

- ☐ No me siento particularmente culpable (0)
- ☐ Me siento culpable respecto de varias cosas que he hecho o que debería haber hecho (1)
- ☐ Me siento bastante culpable la mayor parte del tiempo (2)

- ☐ Me siento culpable todo el tiempo (3)

6. SENTIMIENTOS DE CASTIGO:

- ☐ No siento que estoy siendo castigado (0)
- ☐ Siento que tal vez pueda ser castigado (1)
- ☐ Espero ser castigado (2)
- ☐ Siento que estoy siendo castigado

7 DISCONFORMIDAD CON UNO MISMO

- ☐ Siento acerca de mí lo mismo que siempre (0)
- ☐ He perdido la confianza en mí mismo (1)
- ☐ Estoy decepcionado conmigo mismo (2)
- ☐ No me gusta a mi mismo (3)

8. AUTOCRÍTICA:

- ☐ No me critico ni me culpo más de lo habitual (0)
- ☐ Estoy más crítico conmigo mismo de lo que solía estarlo (1)
- ☐ me critico a mi mismo por todos mis errores (2)
- ☐ Me culpo a mí mismo por todo lo malo que sucede (3)

9. PENSAMIENTOS O DESEOS SUICIDAS:

- ☐ No tengo ningún pensamiento de matarme (0)
- ☐ He tenido pensamientos de matarme, pero no lo haría (1)

- ☐ Querría matarme (2)
- ☐ Me mataría si tuviera la oportunidad de hacerlo (3)

10. LLANTO:

- ☐ No lloro más de lo que solía hacerlo (0)
- ☐ Lloro más de lo que solía hacerlo (1)
- ☐ Lloro por cualquier pequeñez (2)
- ☐ Siento ganas de llorar pero no puedo (3)

11. AGITACIÓN:

- ☐ No estoy más inquieto o tenso de lo habitual (0)
- ☐ Me siento más inquieto o tenso de lo habitual (1)
- ☐ Estoy tan inquieto o agitado que me es difícil quedarme quieto (2)
- ☐ Estoy tan inquieto o agitado que tengo que estar siempre en movimiento o haciendo algo (3)

12.. PÉRDIDA DE INTERÉS:

- ☐ No he perdido el interés en otras actividades o personas (0)
- ☐ Estoy menos interesado que antes en otras personas o cosas (1)
- ☐ He perdido casi todo el interés en otras personas o cosas (2)
- ☐ Me es difícil interesarme por algo (3)

13. INDECISIÓN:

- ☐ Tomo mis decisiones tan bien como siempre (0)
- ☐ Me resulta más difícil que de costumbre tomar decisiones (1)
- ☐ Encuentro mucha más dificultad que antes para tomar decisiones (2)
- ☐ Tengo problemas para tomar cualquier decisión (3)

14. DESVALORIZACIÓN:

- ☐ No siento que yo no sea valioso (0)
- ☐ No me considero a mi mismo tan valioso y útil como solía considerarme (1)
- ☐ Me siento menos valioso cuando me comparo con otros (2)
- ☐ Siento que no valgo nada (3)

15. PÉRDIDA DE ENERGÍA:

- ☐ Tengo tanta energía como siempre (0)
- ☐ Tengo menos energía que la que solía tener (1)
- ☐ No tengo suficiente energía para hacer demasiado (2)
- ☐ No tengo energía suficiente para hacer nada (3)

16. CAMBIO EN LOS HÁBITOS DEL SUEÑO:

- ☐ No he experimentado ningún cambio en mis hábitos del sueño (0)
- ☐ Duermo un poco más que lo habitual (1a)
- ☐ Duermo un poco menos que lo habitual (1b)
- ☐ Duermo mucho más que lo habitual (2a)
- ☐ Duermo mucho menos que lo habitual (2b)
- ☐ Duermo la mayor parte del día (3a)
- ☐ Me despierto 1-2 horas más temprano y no puedo volver a dormirme

17. IRRITABILIDAD:

- ☐ No estoy más irritable que lo habitual (0)
- ☐ Estoy más irritable que lo habitual (1)
- ☐ Estoy mucho más irritable que lo habitual (2)
- ☐ Estoy irritable todo el tiempo (3)

18. CAMBIOS EN EL APETITO:

- ☐ No he experimentado ningún cambio en mi apetito (0)
- ☐ Mi apetito es un poco menor que lo habitual (1a)
- ☐ Mi apetito es un poco mayor que lo habitual (1b)
- ☐ Mi apetito es mucho menor que antes (2a)

- ☐ Mi apetito es mucho mayor que lo habitual (2b)
- ☐ No tengo apetito en absoluto (3a)
- ☐ Quiero comer todo el tiempo (3b)

19. DIFICULTAD DE CONCENTRACIÓN:

- ☐ Puedo concentrarme tan bien como siempre (0)
- ☐ No puedo concentrarme tan bien con habitualmente (1)
- ☐ Me es difícil mantener la mente en algo por mucho tiempo (2)
- ☐ Encuentro que no puedo concentrarme en nada (3)

20. CANSANCIO O FATIGA:

- ☐ No estoy más cansado o fatigado que lo habitual (0)
- ☐ Me fatigo o me canso más fácilmente que lo habitual (1)
- ☐ Estoy demasiado cansado o fatigado para hacer muchas cosas que solía hacer (2)
- ☐ Estoy demasiado cansado/fatigado para hacer mayoría de las cosas que solía hacer (3)

21. PÉRDIA DE INTERÉS EN EL SEXO:

- ☐ No he notado ningún cambio reciente en mi interés por el sexo (0)
- ☐ Estoy ,menos interesado en el sexo de lo que solía estarlo (1)
- ☐ Ahora estoy mucho menos interesado en el sexo (2)

- ☐ He perdido completamente el interés en el sexo (3)

HOSPITAL ANXIETY AND DEPRESSION SCALE (HADS)

1. Me siento tenso/a o nervioso/a:

- ☐ Casi todo el día (3)
- ☐ Gran parte del día (2)
- ☐ De vez en cuando (1)
- ☐ Nunca (0)

2. Sigo disfrutando de las cosas como siempre:

- ☐ Ciertamente, igual que antes (0)
- ☐ No tanto como antes (1)
- ☐ Solamente un poco (2)
- ☐ Ya no disfruto con nada (3)

3. Siento una especie de temor como si algo malo fuera a suceder:

- ☐ Sí, y muy intenso (3)
- ☐ Sí, pero no muy intenso (2)
- ☐ Sí, pero no me preocupa (1)
- ☐ No siento nada de eso (0)

4. Soy capaz de reírme y ver el lado gracioso de las cosas:

- ☐ Igual que siempre (0)
- ☐ Actualmente algo menos (1)
- ☐ Actualmente, mucho menos (2)
- ☐ Actualmente, en absoluto (3)

5. Tengo la cabeza llena de preocupaciones:

- ☐ Casi todo el día (3)
- ☐ Gran parte del día (2)
- ☐ De vez en cuando (1)
- ☐ Nunca (0)

6. Me siento alegre

- ☐ Nunca (3)
- ☐ Muy pocas veces (2)
- ☐ En algunas ocasiones (1)
- ☐ Gran parte del día (0)

7. Soy capaz de permanecer sentado/a tranquilo/a y relajado/a:

- ☐ Siempre (0)
- ☐ A menudo (1)
- ☐ Raras veces (2)
- ☐ Nunca (3)

8. Me siento lento/a y torpe

- ☐ Gran parte del día (3)
- ☐ A menudo (2)
- ☐ A veces (1)
- ☐ Nunca (0)

9. Experimento una desagradable sensación de “nervios y hormigueos” en el estómago

- ☐ Nunca (0)
- ☐ Solo en algunas ocasiones (1)
- ☐ A menudo (2)
- ☐ Muy a menudo (3)

10. He perdido el interés por mi aspecto personal:

- ☐ Completamente (3)
- ☐ No me cuido como debería hacerlo (2)
- ☐ Es posible que no me cuide como debería (1)
- ☐ Me cuido como siempre lo he hecho(0)

11. Me siento inquieto/a como si no pudiera parar de moverme:

- ☐ Realmente mucho (3)
- ☐ Bastante (2)
- ☐ No mucho (1)
- ☐ Nunca (0)

12. Espero las cosas con ilusión

- ☐ Como siempre (0)
- ☐ Algo menos que antes (1)
- ☐ Mucho menos que antes (2)
- ☐ En absoluto (3)

13. Experimento de repente sensaciones de gran angustia o temor:

- ☐ Muy a menudo (3)
- ☐ Con mucha frecuencia (2)
- ☐ Raramente (1)
- ☐ Nunca (0)

14. Soy capaz de disfrutar con un buen libro o con un buen programa de radio o televisión:

- ☐ A menudo (3)
- ☐ Algunas veces (2)
- ☐ Pocas veces (1)
- ☐ Casi nunca (0)

ESCALA IMAGEN CORPORAL PACIENTES ONCOLÓGICOS (BIS)

	En absoluto	Un poco	Bastante	Mucho
1. ¿Se ha avergonzado por su apariencia física?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. ¿Se ha sentido menos atractiva/o físicamente a causa de su enfermedad?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. ¿Se ha sentido insatisfecha/o con su apariencia estando vestida/o?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. ¿Se ha sentido menos femenina/masculino como consecuencia de su enfermedad o tratamiento?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. ¿Le resulta difícil mirarse estando desnuda/o?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. ¿Se ha sentido menos atractiva/o sexualmente a causa de su enfermedad o tratamiento?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7. ¿Evita ver a gente debido a cómo se siente con su apariencia?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8. ¿Ha sentido que el tratamiento le ha dejado su cuerpo incompleto?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9. ¿Se ha sentido insatisfecha/o con su cuerpo?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10. ¿Se ha sentido insatisfecha/o con su cicatriz?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

EVALUACIÓN CALIDAD DE VIDA (QLQ-C-30)

	En absoluto	Un poco	Bastante	Mucho
¿Tiene alguna dificultad para hacer actividades que requieran un esfuerzo importante, como llevar una bolsa de compra pesada o una maleta?.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
¿Tiene alguna dificultad para dar un paseo largo?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
¿Tiene alguna dificultad para dar un paseo corto fuera de casa?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
¿Tiene que permanecer en la cama o sentado/a en una silla durante el día?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
¿Necesita ayuda para comer, vestirse, asearse ir al servicio?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
¿Ha tenido algún impedimento para hacer su trabajo u otras actividades cotidianas?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
¿Ha tenido algún impedimento para realizar sus aficiones u otras actividades de ocio?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
¿Tuvo asfixia?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
¿Ha tenido dolor?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
¿Necesitó parar para descansar?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
¿Ha tenido dificultades para dormir?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
¿Se ha sentido débil?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
¿Le ha faltado el apetito?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
¿Ha tenido náuseas?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

¿Ha vomitado?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
¿Ha estado estreñado/a?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
¿Ha tenido diarrea?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
¿Estuvo cansado/a?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
¿Interfirió algún dolor en sus actividades diarias?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
¿Ha tenido dificultad en concentrarse en cosas como leer el periódico o ver la televisión?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

¿Se sintió nervioso/a?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
¿Se sintió preocupado/a?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
¿Se sintió irritable?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
¿Se sintió deprimido/a?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
¿Ha tenido dificultades para recordar cosas?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
¿Ha interferido su estado físico o el tratamiento médico en su vida familiar?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
¿Ha interferido su estado físico o el tratamiento médico en sus actividades sociales?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
¿Le han causado problemas económicos su estado físico o el tratamiento médico?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<p>¿Cómo valoraría su salud general durante la semana pasada?</p> <p>Pésima 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Excelente ¿Cómo valoraría su calidad de vida en general durante la semana pasada?</p> <p>Pésima 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Excelente</p>				

ESCALA DE IDEACIÓN SUICIDA DE BECK (SSI)

I. Características de la actitud ante la vida o la muerte

1. Deseo de vivir:

- ☐ Moderado a fuerte (0)
- ☐ Débil (1)
- ☐ Ninguno (2)

2. Deseo de morir:

- ☐ Ninguno (0)
- ☐ Débil (1)
- ☐ Moderado a fuerte (2)

3. Razones para vivir/morir

- ☐ Más razones para vivir que para morir (0)
- ☐ Igual unas que otras (1)
- ☐ Más razones para morir que para vivir (2)

4. Deseo de intentar activamente el suicidio

- ☐ Ninguno (0)
- ☐ Débil (1)
- ☐ Moderado a fuerte (2)

5. Intento de suicidio de forma pasiva

- ☐ Tomaría precauciones para salvar la vida (0)
- ☐ Dejaría al azar el vivir/morir (p.e. cruzar sin cuidado una calle muy transitada) (1)
- ☐ Evitaría los medios necesarios para salvar o conservar la vida (p.e. un diabético que deja de ponerse la insulina) (2)

II. Características de la Ideación/Deseo suicida

6. Duración de la ideación/deseo suicida

- ☐ Breve, períodos pasajeros (0)
- ☐ Amplios períodos (1)
- ☐ Continuo (crónico), casi continuo (2)

7. Frecuencia de la ideación/deseo suicida

- ☐ Raro, ocasional (0)
- ☐ Intermitente (1)
- ☐ Persistente o continuo (2)

8. Actitud hacia la ideación/deseo suicida

- ☐ Rechazo (0)
- ☐ Ambivalente, indiferente (1)
- ☐ Aceptación (2)

9. Control sobre el acto suicida: acting-out/deseo

- ☐ Tiene sentido del control (0)
- ☐ Control incierto (1)
- ☐ No tiene sensación de control (2)

10. Disuasores ("frenos") para hacer un intento activo (familia, secuelas si no se consuma)

- ☐ No quería el suicidio por el "freno" que tiene (0)
- ☐ Alguna preocupación por los "frenos" (1)
- ☐ Mínima o ninguna preocupación sobre los "frenos" (Indicar "frenos" si procede_____) (2)

11. Razones para el Intento planeado

- ☐ Manipular el ambiente, atraer la atención, venganza (0)
- ☐ Combinación de 0 y 2 (1)
- ☐ Escapar, resolver problemas (2)

III. Características del Intento de suicidio planeado

12. Método: especificidad/planificación

- ☐ No considerado (0)
- ☐ Considerado pero sin resolver los detalles (1)
- ☐ Detalles resueltos, bien formulados (2)

13. Método: disponibilidad/oportunidad

- ☐ Método no disponible, no oportuno (0)
- ☐ Método que requeriría tiempo, esfuerzo/no oportuno (1)

- ☐ Método y oportunidad disponibles (2a)
- ☐ Oportunidad futura o disponibilidad del método anticipada (2b)

14. Sensación de "capacidad para realizar el Intento"

- ☐ No coraje, demasiado débil, temeroso, incompetente (0)
- ☐ Inseguro de tener coraje, competencia (1)
- ☐ Seguro de su competencia, coraje (2)

15. Expectativa/Anticipación del Intento actual

- ☐ No (0)
- ☐ Incierta (1)
- ☐ Si (2)

IV. Realización del intento de suicidio

16. Preparación real

- ☐ Ninguna (0)
- ☐ Parcial (p.e.: empezar a recoger comprimidos) (1)
- ☐ Completa (p.e.: tener comprimidos, navaja afeitar, arma cargada) (2)

17. Nota suicida

- ☐ Ninguna (0)
- ☐ Iniciada pero no terminada, solo ideas sobre ella (1)
- ☐ Completada, depositada (2)

18. "Últimos arreglos" para preparar la muerte (seguros, testamento, donaciones, etc.)

- ☐ Ninguno (0)
- ☐ Ideas sobre o hacer algunos arreglos (1)
- ☐ Ha realizado o completado los arreglos (2)

19. Engaño/Ocultación de la tentativa planeada

- ☐ Revela las ideas abiertamente (0)
- ☐ Contiene su revelación (reticente)(1)
- ☐ Intenta ocultar, engañar, mentir (2)

V. Antecedentes

20. Intentos de suicidio previos

- ☐ Ninguno (1)
- ☐ Uno (2)
- ☐ Más de uno (3)

21. Intención de morir relacionada con el último intento (si no es aplicable puntuar "8")

- ☐ Baja (0)
- ☐ Moderada, ambivalente, insegura (1)
- ☐ Alta (2)

Universidad autónoma de madrid



Facultad de Psicología

Departamento de Psicología Biológica y de la Salud

Programa de Doctorado de Psicología Clínica y de la Salud

Mención Internacional

Evaluación de los aspectos psicopatológicos en pacientes oncológicos del Hospital

Jiménez Díaz de Madrid (HUJD)

MEMORIA PARA OPTAR AL GRADO DE DOCTOR

PRESENTADA POR

Daniel Díaz Frutos

07/02/2017

Directores Tesis Doctoral

Dr. Enrique Baca García

Dr. Jorge López Castroman

Dr. Jesús García-Foncillas López

MEDICINA PSICOSOMÁTICA Y PSIQUIATRÍA DE ENLACE

Barcelona, 23 de noviembre 2016

Psic. Daniel Diaz-Frutos
Department of Psychiatry and Clinical Psychology and Department of Oncology,
Fundación Jiménez Díaz Hospital, Autonoma University of Madrid, (UAM), Spain.

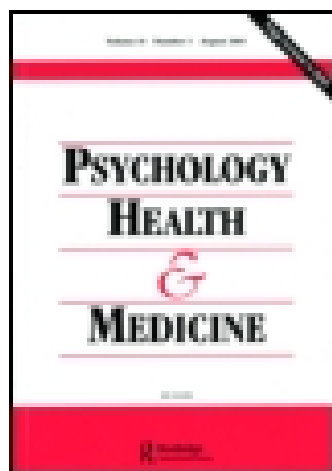
Apreciada colega:

Le informamos que su trabajo titulado: *“Review of completed suicide and suicidal ideation in oncologic patients from a geographic classification”*, ha sido aceptado para publicación en el nº 121 de Cuadernos de Medicina Psicosomática y Psiquiatría de Enlace, que tiene prevista su salida en el trimestre enero-marzo del próximo año 2017. Se edita, online, en el mes de marzo y le enviaremos el número 121 completo.

Gracias por su interés en la revista y esperamos que en el futuro considere nuestra publicación para enviar otros manuscritos.

Atentamente

Dr. Josep Maria Farré
Editor



[Click for updates](#)

Psychology, Health & Medicine

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information:

<http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/cphm20>

Suicide ideation among oncologic patients in a Spanish ward

D. Diaz-Frutos^{ab}, E. Baca-Garcia^a, I. Mahillo-Fernandez^c, J. Garcia-Foncillas^b & J. Lopez-Castroman^{ade}

^a Department of Psychiatry, Fundación Jiménez Díaz Hospital, Autonoma University of Madrid (UAM), Madrid, Spain

^b Department of Oncology, Fundación Jiménez Díaz Hospital, Autonoma University of Madrid (UAM), Madrid, Spain

^c Department of Epidemiology, Fundación Jiménez Díaz Hospital, Autonoma University of Madrid (UAM), Madrid, Spain

^d Department of Emergency Psychiatry and Post-Acute Care, CHRU Montpellier, Montpellier, France

^e INSERM U1061, Montpellier, France

Published online: 25 Jun 2015.

To cite this article: D. Diaz-Frutos, E. Baca-Garcia, I. Mahillo-Fernandez, J. Garcia-Foncillas & J. Lopez-Castroman (2015): Suicide ideation among oncologic patients in a Spanish ward, Psychology, Health & Medicine, DOI: [10.1080/13548506.2015.1058960](https://doi.org/10.1080/13548506.2015.1058960)

To link to this article: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/13548506.2015.1058960>

PLEASE SCROLL DOWN FOR ARTICLE

Taylor & Francis makes every effort to ensure the accuracy of all the information (the "Content") contained in the publications on our platform. However, Taylor & Francis, our agents, and our licensors make no representations or warranties whatsoever as to the accuracy, completeness, or suitability for any purpose of the Content. Any opinions and views expressed in this publication are the opinions and views of the authors, and are not the views of or endorsed by Taylor & Francis. The accuracy of the Content should not be relied upon and should be independently verified with primary sources of information. Taylor and Francis shall not be liable for any losses, actions, claims, proceedings, demands, costs, expenses, damages, and other liabilities whatsoever or howsoever caused arising directly or indirectly in connection with, in relation to or arising out of the use of the Content.

This article may be used for research, teaching, and private study purposes. Any substantial or systematic reproduction, redistribution, reselling, loan, sub-licensing,

Suicide ideation among oncologic patients in a Spanish ward

D. Diaz-Frutos^{a,b,*} , E. Baca-Garcia^a , I. Mahillo-Fernandez^c, J. Garcia-Foncillas^b
and J. Lopez-Castroman^{a,d,e} 

^aDepartment of Psychiatry, Fundación Jiménez Díaz Hospital, Autonomía University of Madrid (UAM), Madrid, Spain; ^bDepartment of Oncology, Fundación Jiménez Díaz Hospital, Autonomía University of Madrid (UAM), Madrid, Spain; ^cDepartment of Epidemiology, Fundación Jiménez Díaz Hospital, Autonomía University of Madrid (UAM), Madrid, Spain; ^dDepartment of Emergency Psychiatry and Post-Acute Care, CHRU Montpellier, Montpellier, France; ^eINSERM U1061, Montpellier, France

(Received 1 January 2015; accepted 2 June 2015)

Oncologic patients are exposed to a higher risk of suicidal behaviors than the general population. In this study, we aim to examine the severity of suicidal ideation in a sample of oncologic patients considering different psychological and clinical features. We interviewed 202 inpatients receiving curative or palliative treatment in a medical oncology ward of a Spanish hospital during the period 2012–2014. A complete assessment of psychosocial factors, cancer diagnoses (lung, colon rectum, and genitourinary system), and suicidal behaviors were made during admission, including validated questionnaires about depression, anxiety, personality, quality of life, body image, life threatening events, hopelessness, and suicidal ideation. The characteristics of inpatients with high and low suicidal ideation were retrospectively compared. A logistic regression model was constructed to examine the relationship between the significant factors retained after the univariate analyses. One of every four patients ($n = 51$; 25.24%) presented high scores of suicidal ideation. Logistic regression analyses retained depression (OR = 3.55; 95% CI = 1.25–11.68; $p = .016$), hopelessness (OR = 8.78; 95% CI = 3.44–25.88; $p \leq .001$), personality (OR = .44; 95% CI = .2–.96; $p = .038$), and advanced age (OR = 2.60; 95% CI = 1.18–5.98; $p = .016$) as the main risk factors for high suicidal ideation. Suicidal ideation was frequent among oncologic patients. These patients should receive closer monitoring, especially, when old, retired, or severely depressed.

Keywords: psycho-oncology; suicidal ideation; depression; cancer; descriptive survey study

Introduction

Cancer and suicidal behavior are major public health issues and leading causes of death worldwide. In 2012, there were around 3.45 million new cancer cases and 1.5 million cancer-related deaths in Europe (Ferlay et al., 2012; Malvezzi, Bertuccio, Levi, La Vecchia, & Negri, 2013). Of them, 100,000 new diagnoses and 102,000 deaths were reported just in Spain (Sánchez et al., 2010). In the same year, there were nearly 160,000 suicides in Europe (Hoven, Mandell, & Bertolote, 2010). Spain, as other countries in the Mediterranean basin, presents a relatively low suicide risk, with 7.6 suicides

*Corresponding author. Email: daniel.diaz@fjd.es

per 100.000 inhabitants (INE, 2014), and a lifetime prevalence of 3.67% for suicide ideation and 1.46% for suicide attempts in 2012 (Miret et al., 2014).

The risk of suicide among oncologic patients seems to double the risk observed in the general population with an odds ratio (OR) that ranges from 1.3 to 2.6 (Misono, Weiss, Fann, Redman, & Yueh, 2008; Robson, Scrutton, Wilkinson, & MacLeod, 2010). Oncologic patients may present an enhanced vulnerability to psychological issues and suicidal ideation. In hospitalized patients with cancer, Botega et al. (2010) estimated a 7.8% prevalence of suicidal ideation, and even higher rates of suicide attempts have been reported in one sample (Balci Sengul, Kaya, Sen, & Kaya, 2014), although the reported rates depend largely on the methodology. According to a review, the prevalence of suicidal ideation in oncologic patients ranged from .8 to 71.4% (Robson et al., 2010).

The psychological distress associated with cancer may trigger suicidal acts especially if associated with a comorbid mental disorder (Kisely, Crowe, & Lawrence, 2013; Reiche, Odebrecht Vargas Nunes, & Kaminami Morimoto, 2004; Tas et al., 2012). Oncologic patients with distress often consult their physicians about their psychological state. However, clinicians tend to consider distress symptoms as a normal reaction to illness. Thus, the estimated rate of referral to mental health consultation ranges between 10 and 33% of cancer patients turn to mental health services depending on the study (De la Grandmaison, Watier, Cavard, & Charlier, 2014; Holland & Alici, 2010; Weinberger, Bruce, Roth, Breitbart, & Nelson, 2011).

The most common mental disorders among oncologic patients are anxiety and affective disorders (Balci Sengul et al., 2014; Chochinov, 2001; Massie, 2004). For instance, the reported prevalence of major depression may reach 38% (58% considering a broad spectrum of depressive disorders) (Massie, 2004; Weinberger et al., 2011) and anxiety disorders may be present in 10–30% in oncologic patients (Balci Sengul et al., 2014; Holland & Alici, 2010). High rates of mental disorders have also been reported in palliative care (Mitchell et al., 2011; Weinberger et al., 2011). Of note, few studies have examined the prevalence of alcohol or substance abuse (Botega et al., 2010; Passik & Theobald, 2000), personality disorders or schizophrenia in oncologic patients, but there seems to be no difference with the general population (Chang et al., 2014; Miovic & Block, 2007).

Other factors have been associated with suicidal ideation in oncologic patients: (i) hopelessness, a powerful predictor of suicide that is related to depression (Breitbart et al., 2000; Gil & Gilbar, 2001), (ii) sociodemographic factors (Robson et al., 2010), such as lack of social support, unemployment, low income, being alone, advanced age, and being female (Akechi et al., 2010; Kendal, 2007), and (iii) medical factors, such as time since diagnosis, extension of the disease, type of tumor, suffering from other medical conditions (Quill, 2008; Spoletini et al., 2011), and survival from childhood cancer (Lu et al., 2013; Recklitis et al., 2010). In this study, we aim to assess the characteristics associated with high levels of suicidal ideation among oncologic patients using a research protocol composed of eight psychological instruments for the screening and early identification of bio–psycho–social factors related to the risk of suicidal behaviors. We hypothesize that poor social performance, features of severity of the oncological disease and high psychological suffering will be associated to higher suicidal ideation.

Methods

Participants

A total of 202 inpatients were recruited in a medical oncology ward from January 2012 to January 2014 at Fundacion Jimenez Diaz hospital, Madrid, Spain. Most patients

recruited had advanced cancer and were receiving palliative care (78.2%). Inclusion criteria were: (i) to present a primary tumor located in lung, colon rectum, or genitourinary area, which are the most frequent types of cancer in Spanish population (Sánchez et al., 2010); (ii) to be 18–85 years old; and, (iii) to sign a written informed consent before participating in the study. Twenty-seven patients were contacted, but refused to participate due to exclusion criteria: (i) Denial of participation and (ii) incapability to participate (advanced stage of the illness, family denial, etc).

Measures

- (i) The Scale for Suicide Ideation (SSI) (Beck, Kovacs, & Weissman, 1979), which evaluates ideas of suicide or death in clinical settings through 21 items. Each item response is graded according to suicidal intensity on a three-point scale ranging from 0 to 2. Given that oncologic patients were not necessarily suicidal, we selected only five items that assess the main dimensions of suicidal ideas (desire to live; desire to die; reasons to live or to die; suicide ideation and previous attempts). All patients completed these five items. The remaining items of the SSI were not applicable in the absence of previous suicidal behaviors.
- (ii) The international personality disorder evaluation screening questionnaire (IPDE) (Loranger, Sartorius, Andreoli, et al., 1994) examines global traits of personality disorders according to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders with 77- True/False self-report items.
- (iii) The third version of the core quality of life questionnaire (QLQ-C-30) (Aaronson et al., 1993) measures physical, psychological, and social functions. Each item is scored in one of four categories (from ‘not at all’ to ‘very much’), with the exception of Global QLQ (from 1 ‘very poor’ to 7 ‘excellent’), the QLQ total scores vary from 0 to 100.
- (iv) The Body Image Scale (BIS) (Hopwood, Fletcher, Lee, & Al Ghazal, 2001) assesses body image in oncologic patients with 10-items, total score ranges from 0 to 30.
- (v) The Beck Depression Inventory (BDI-II) (Beck, Steer and Brown, 1996) measures the severity of depressive symptoms with 21 items scored from 0 to 3. The standard cut-offs define minimal depression (0–9), moderate depression (10–29), and severe depression (30–63). A BDI-II assessment includes questioning over somatic symptoms. Thus, to avoid an overestimation of depression rates in cancer patients, we added Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale (HADS) as a second measure of depression.
- (vi) The HADS (Zigmond & Snaith, 1983) evaluates the levels of anxiety and depression that a patient is experiencing through 14 items. Half of the items relate to anxiety and the other half relate to depression. Each item on the questionnaire is scored from 0 to 3. Specific anxiety diagnoses were not elicited.
- (vii) The Beck Hopelessness Scale (BHS) (Beck, Weissman, Lester, & Trexler, 1974) examines thoughts and beliefs about the future through 20 true–false items.
- (viii) The Life Threatening Events (LTE) (Brugha & Cragg, 1990) examines recent stressful life events during the last year in 12 major categories. Positive responses score one point.

Procedure

The suicide assessment procedure was based on the Columbia Suicide History Form (Mann, Waternaux, Haas, & Malone, 1999). The procedure is a semi-structured interview with questionnaires to collect information about sociodemographic features, characteristics of the suicide behaviors and essential psychological characteristics on oncologic patients. The local research ethics committee approved the study.

All questionnaires have been validated for their use on Spanish population: SSI (Comeche, Diaz, & Vallejo, 1995), IPDE (López-ibor, Pérez Urdániz, & Rubio Larrosa, 1996), QLQ-C-30 (Arraras et al., 2002), BIS (Gomez-Campelo, Bragado-Alvarez, Hernandez-Lloreda, & Sanchez-Bernardos, 2014) BDI-II (Sanz, García-Vera, Espinosa, Fortún, & Vázquez, 2005), HADS (Herrero et al., 2003), BHS (Aguilar García-Iturrospe et al., 1995), and LTE (García-Nieto et al., 2012).

Statistical analyses

In order to investigate the factors associated with high levels of suicidal ideation among oncologic patients, we established a cut-off for suicidal ideation using the highest tertile in SSI scores and divided the sample in two groups (high vs. low suicidal ideation). Univariate comparisons of sociodemographic features, clinical variables, and assessment scores between these two groups were made using Chi-Square test. We tested the association between the assessment instruments and the SSI using Cronbach's alpha. We predicted statistical power calculations using Cohen's d ($1-B > .95$ is very high; $1-B \leq .5$ is low; and $1-B = .8$ is moderate-high). Finally, a logistic regression model was built to estimate adjusted ORs for high suicidal ideation using demographic, clinical, and psychological variables associated with p -values $\leq .05$ in the univariate analysis. We established a cut-off for the psychological variables associated to the regression model (BHS, BDI, and IPDE) using the highest tertile and obtaining higher and lower scores. Analyses were performed using SPSS 17.0.

Results

Sample description

The most relevant sociodemographic features can be found in Table 1. Most patients were female ($n = 115$; 56.9%), with high educational level ($n = 125$; 61.9%), in couple ($n = 108$; 53.5%), receiving palliative care ($n = 158$, 78.2%), retired ($n = 121$; 59.9%), and earning more than 1500 euros ($n = 114$; 56.4%). Mean age was 61.7 ± 12.9 years. Types of cancer included: lung ($n = 62$; 30.7%), colon rectum ($n = 51$; 25.2%), male genitourinary system, ($n = 23$; 11.4%) and female genitourinary system ($n = 66$; 32.7%). All assessment instruments were highly correlated with the SSI ($p \leq .001$) with the exception of LTE ($p = .66$).

Features associated to high suicidal ideation

Hereon, only significant associations between clinical features and high suicidal ideation will be shown (see details in Table 1). Regarding demographic features, high suicidal ideation was associated only with advanced age, over 60 years ($\chi^2 = 5.9$; $df = 1$; $p = .01$; $1-B = .52$), and retirement ($\chi^2 = 16.9$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$). Clinically, subjects with high suicidal ideation were more likely to be under palliative care ($\chi^2 = 5.74$;

Table 1. Characteristics of the sample.

Variables	Total (<i>n</i> = 202)	SSI < 3 (<i>n</i> = 151) <i>n</i> (%)	SSI ≥ 3 (<i>n</i> = 51)	Statistics		
				<i>F</i> / χ^2	df	<i>P</i>
<i>Demographic</i>						
Age (>60)	117 (57.9%)	80 (53%)	37 (72.5%)	5.9	1	.014
Sex, female	115 (56.9%)	90 (59.6%)	25 (49%)	1.74	1	.18
Marital status, in couple	108 (53.5%)	80 (53%)	28 (54.9%)	.57	1	.81
Educational level, high	125 (61.9%)	97 (64.2%)	28 (54.9%)	1.4	1	.23
Working status, retired	121 (59.9%)	78 (51.7%)	43 (84.3%)	16.9	1	≤.001
Income, >1500 €/month	114 (56.4%)	87 (57.6%)	27 (52.9%)	.33	1	.56
<i>Clinical</i>						
Type of cancer						
Lung	62 (30.7%)	44 (29.1%)	18 (35.3%)	.67	1	.41
Colon rectum	51 (25.2%)	42 (27.8%)	9 (17.6%)	2.08	1	.14
Male genitourinary	23 (11.4%)	16 (10.6%)	7 (13.7%)	.37	1	.54
Female genitourinary	66 (32.7%)	49 (32.5%)	17 (33.3%)	.01	1	.9
Therapeutic approach, palliative	158 (78.2%)	112 (74.2%)	46 (90.2%)	5.74	1	.017
<i>Assessment scales</i>						
LTE (≥4)	88 (43.6%)	71 (47%)	17 (33.3%)	2.9	1	.08
BHS (≥9)	98 (48.5%)	53 (35.1%)	45 (88.2%)	43.09	1	≤.001
BDI-II (≥29)	39 (19.3%)	12 (7.9%)	27 (52.9%)	49.54	1	≤.001
HADS-A (≥13)	55 (27.2%)	32 (21.2%)	23 (45.1%)	10.99	1	≤.001
HADS-D(≥13)	76 (37.6%)	36 (23.8%)	40 (78.4%)	48.41	1	≤.001
BIS (≥11)	54 (26.7%)	35 (23.2%)	19 (37.3%)	3.8	1	.05
<i>Functioning QLQ-C-30</i>						
Physical (≥16)	59 (29.2%)	32 (21.2%)	27 (52.9%)	18.58	1	≤.001
Role (≥6)	110 (54.5%)	70 (46.4%)	40 (78.4%)	15.81	1	≤.001
Cognitive (≥5)	60 (29.7%)	31 (20.5%)	29 (56.9%)	24.10	1	≤.001
Emotional (≥11)	57 (28.2%)	26 (17.2%)	31 (60.8%)	35.72	1	≤.001
Social (≥6)	104 (51.5%)	69 (45.7%)	35 (68.6%)	8.02	1	.006
Global (≥9)	145 (71.8%)	115 (76.2%)	21 (41.2%)	21.2	1	≤.001
<i>IPDE (≥7)</i>						
Paranoid	168 (83.2%)	129 (85.43%)	39 (76.47%)	2.18	1	.13
Schizoid	119 (58.9%)	97 (64.23%)	22 (43.13%)	7.01	1	.008
Schizotypal	180 (89.1%)	141 (93.37%)	39 (76.47%)	11.22	1	≤.001
Antisocial	198 (98%)	149 (98.67%)	49 (96.07%)	1.32	1	.25
Borderline	148 (73.3%)	117 (77.48%)	31 (60.78%)	5.42	1	.02
Histrionic	123 (60.9%)	90 (59.6%)	33 (64.7%)	.41	1	.52
Narcissistic	146 (72.3%)	105 (59.53%)	41 (80.39%)	2.24	1	.13
Avoidant	150 (74.3%)	118 (78.14%)	32 (62.74%)	4.73	1	.03
Dependent	130 (64.4%)	110 (72.84%)	20 (39.21%)	18.79	1	≤.001
Obsessive-compulsive	110 (54.5%)	84 (55.62%)	26 (50.98%)	.33	1	.56

Notes: χ^2 test and data are presented as *n*(%). Assessment instruments: LTE = Life of threatening experiences; SSI = Scale for suicide ideation; BHS = Beck Hopelessness Scale; BDI = Beck Depression Inventory; HADS-A = Hospital Anxiety Scale; HADS-D = Hospital Depression Scale; BIS = Body Image Scale; QLQ-C-30 = Quality of Life Questionnaire; IPDE = International Personality Disorders Examination. The distribution of data for assessment scales is based on their reported cut-off or highest tertile. Significant results appear in bold type.

df = 1; *p* < .05), and to present higher levels of hopelessness (*F* = .43.09; df = 1; *p* ≤ .001; 1-B = 1.29), depressive symptomatology both according to BDI-II (*F* = .49.54; df = 1; *p* ≤ .001; 1-B = 1.4) and HADS-D (*F* = 10.99; df = 1; *p* ≤ .001; 1-B = 1.42), and dimensional aspects of anxiety according to HADS (*F* = 48.41; df = 1; *p* ≤ .001; 1-B = .87). Moreover, suicidal subjects also reported lower quality of

life scales: physical functioning ($\chi^2 = 18.58$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$), role functioning ($\chi^2 = 15.81$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$), cognitive functioning ($\chi^2 = 24.10$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$), emotional functioning ($\chi^2 = 35.72$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$), social functioning ($\chi^2 = 8.02$; $df = 1$; $p = .006$), global functioning ($\chi^2 = 18.79$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$), and body image distortions ($F = 3.8$; $df = 1$; $p = .05$; $1-B = .5$) more often than subjects with low suicidality. Concerning personality features, suicidal subjects were more likely to endorse schizotypal ($\chi^2 = 11.22$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$), dependent ($\chi^2 = 18.79$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$), schizoid ($\chi^2 = 7.01$; $df = 1$; $p = .008$), borderline ($\chi^2 = 5.42$; $df = 1$; $p = .02$), and avoidant ($\chi^2 = 4.73$; $df = 1$; $p = .03$) personality disorders according to the IPDE.

Logistic regression

According to the regression model (Table 2), high suicidal ideation was associated with high depression (OR = 3.55; 95% CI = 1.25–11.68; $p = .016$), high hopelessness (OR = 8.78; 95% CI = 3.44–25.88; $p \leq .001$), and advanced age (OR = 2.60; 95% CI = 1.18–5.98; $p = .016$). Inversely, patients with high scores in the IPDE, were less likely to present high suicidal ideation (OR = .44; 95% CI = .2–.96; $p = .038$). Combined, the use of these four features provided a curve Receiver operating characteristic (ROC) for possible optimal models with a good sensitivity and specificity to identify accurately the occurrence of high suicidal ideation in 83% of the oncologic patients (area under the ROC = .83, sensitivity = .854, and specificity = .936, Figure 1).

Discussion

In this exploratory study, the results confirm the excessive prevalence of suicidal ideation (25.2%) in oncologic patients, which has been estimated to be between 17 and 25% in other studies (Costantini et al., 2014; Schneider & Shenassa, 2008). Moreover, 52–78% of the patients fulfilled depression criteria according to HADS-D or BDI-II, respectively, 88% reported hopelessness and 45.1% reported high anxiety levels according to the HADS. These findings go in line with previous literature suggesting that the occurrence of hopelessness, depression and anxiety, during the oncological process increases the risk of suicidal behaviors (Balci Sengul et al., 2014; Costantini et al., 2014; De la Grandmaison et al., 2014).

Agreeing to the stress-vulnerability model, the worse quality of life and more physical and psychological handicaps associated with hospitalization probably account for a larger risk of suicidal ideas among inpatients compared to outpatients (Costantini et al., 2014; Rajmohan & Kumar, 2013; Robson et al., 2010). Suicidal ideation was more frequent among the elderly (over 60 years of age) and those patients receiving palliative

Table 2. Variables retained in the logistic regression model comparing oncologic patients with high vs. low suicidal ideation.

Characteristics	OR	OR (95% CI)	P value
Hopelessness (BHS), high vs. low scores	8.78	3.44–25.88	$\leq .001$
Depression (BDI), high vs. low scores	3.55	1.25–11.68	.016
Personality (IPDE), high vs. low scores	.44	.2–.96	.038
Age, older vs. younger	2.60	1.18–5.98	.016

Note: Significant results appear in bold type.

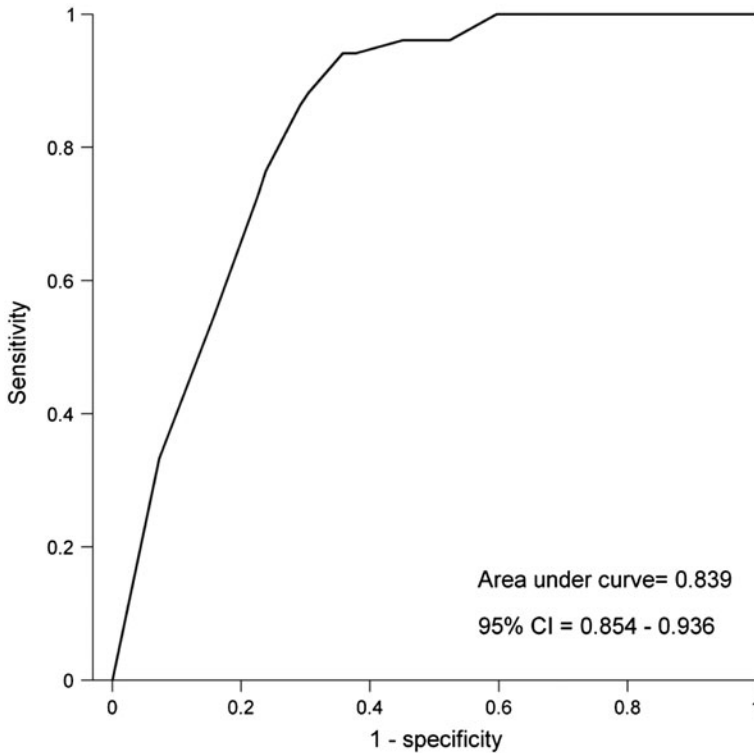


Figure 1. ROC curve for high suicidal ideation and advanced age among oncologic patients.

care, but we did not find significant differences depending on cancer types. Similarly, other risk factors known to be associated with suicidal behaviors, such as being alone and having financial problems were not significantly associated to high suicidal ideation (Chang et al., 2014; Misono et al., 2008; Robson et al., 2010).

At the same time, oncologic patients feel themselves detached from their social background, especially during prolonged hospitalizations. Interestingly, these factors could be translated into two essential components of the interpersonal theory of suicide that are needed to understand the development of suicidal ideas: perceived burdensomeness and thwarted belongingness. The construct of perceived burdensomeness equals to the feeling of being a burden on caregivers ('you will be better off without me'), while the construct of thwarted belongingness refers to the feeling of being disconnected from others (may express feelings of being alone or being lonely) (Joiner et al., 2009). Certainly, the patients try to avoid depressive symptoms deriving from distressful events, but they are limited by difficulties affecting problem-solving abilities, social support, and self-awareness (Balci Sengul et al., 2014; Quill, 2008; Spoletini et al., 2011).

Few studies have investigated the association between personality traits and suicide in patients with cancer. We used the IPDE, which evaluates the global risk for personality disorders. If a threshold is passed then a complete evaluation of personality can be undertaken (Clark & Harrison, 2001). The screening is useful to detect persons who are unlikely to present a personality disorder, but it tends to overestimate their prevalence (Guthrie & Mobley, 1994; Lenzenweger, Loranger, Korfine, & Neff, 1997). In our

sample, patients with positive scores in personality disorders were less likely to present suicidal ideation, but this finding should be interpreted with care. Personality disorders, especially cluster B disorders, are associated with high suicidality (Miovic & Block, 2007; Misono et al., 2008), but the effect of life events on the suicidal risk is less clear and may depend on the type of stressor (Yen et al., 2005). For instance, in a recent study, life events were associated with less risk of suicidal behavior among borderline depressed patients. According to the authors, borderline personality rendered life events less 'effective' in precipitating suicidal acts (Oquendo et al., 2014).

All information for this study was obtained using validated instruments and following a standard assessment procedure for suicidal behaviors. However, some limitations should be noted. First, the data is self-reported and was not confirmed by other sources. Second, this study is cross-sectional and therefore no inference on causality can be established with regards to suicidal ideation. Third, given that all patients were hospitalized and a majority was receiving palliative care, the difference in suicidal ideation among cancer types was probably reduced and our results may not be generalizable to other oncological populations. Although other studies have reported a similar prevalence for suicidal ideation in other samples from different countries (Costantini et al., 2014; Fang et al., 2014), the predictors of suicidal ideation might differ between hospitalized patients and outpatients with cancer. Studies across different settings and cultures are needed to clarify these issues. For instance, examining patients according to the most incident type of cancer in Spain (colorectal cancer) (Sánchez et al., 2010), with about 60 individuals per group, should have allowed us to detect differences in suicidal ideation with an 80% confidence only if tumor localization had a strong effect size (around .8 according to the definition provided by Cohen (Cohen, 1988)). Still, using some simple questionnaires, we were able to classify accurately the suicidal ideas of most oncologic patients (area under the curve ROC = .83).

Exploring psychopathological features is essential to ascertain suicidal risk in oncologic patients. Our results provide some important implications for clinical practice in oncologic wards: (i) suicidal ideation may be disregarded in hospitalization units; (ii) a protocol for the assessment of suicidal risk is feasible and well-accepted; and (iii) tertiary prevention of suicide should be performed in some patients particularly at risk (advanced age, features of severity in their depressive symptomatology). Besides, through the use of a protocol to assess the distress levels of oncologic patients, awareness of the problem can be raised and human care improved among hospital workers. In turn, we may need to adapt clinical guidelines for all personnel involved in the care of oncologic patients, favoring integrated therapies by multidisciplinary teams (Costantini et al., 2014; Fang et al., 2014). Further studies are warranted to investigate psychological and medical features associated with suicidal behaviors in oncologic patients in order to improve screening proceedings.

Disclosure statement

No potential conflict of interest was reported by the authors.

ORCID

D. Diaz-Frutos  <http://orcid.org/0000-0003-4467-7489>

E. Baca-Garcia  <http://orcid.org/0000-0002-6963-6555>

J. Lopez-Castroman  <http://orcid.org/0000-0003-0618-0690>

References

- Aaronson, N. K., Ahmedzai, S., Bergman, B., Bullinger, M., Cull, A., Duez, N. J., ... Takeda, F. (1993). The european organization for research and treatment of cancer qlq-c30: A quality-of-life instrument for use in international clinical trials in oncology. *Journal of the National Cancer*, 85, 365–376. doi:[10.1093/jnci/85.5.365](https://doi.org/10.1093/jnci/85.5.365)
- Aguilar García-Iturrospe, E. I., Hidalgo Montesionos, M. D., Cano García, R., López Manzano, J. C., Campillo Agusti, M., & Hernández Martínez, M. (1995). Estudio prospectivo de la desesperanza en pacientes psicóticos: Características psicométricas de la escala de desesperanza de beck [Prospective study of hopelessness in psychotic patients: Psychometric characteristics of the beck hopelessness scale]. *Anales de Psiquiatría*, 11, 121–125.
- Akechi, T., Okamura, H., Nakano, T., Akizuki, N., Okamura, M., Shimizu, K., ... Uchitomi, Y. (2010). Gender differences in factors associated with suicidal ideation in major depression among cancer patients. *Psycho-Oncology*, 19, 384–389. doi:[10.1002/pon.1587](https://doi.org/10.1002/pon.1587)
- Arraras, J. I., Arias, F., Tejedor, M., Pruja, E., Marcos, M., Martínez, E., & Valerdi, J. (2002). The eortc qlq-c30 (version 3.0) quality of life questionnaire: Validation study for Spain with head and neck cancer patients. *Psycho-Oncology*, 11, 249–256. doi:[10.1002/pon.555](https://doi.org/10.1002/pon.555)
- Balci Sengul, M. C., Kaya, V., Sen, C. A., & Kaya, K. (2014). Association between suicidal ideation and behavior, and depression, anxiety, and perceived social support in cancer patients. *Medical Science Monitor*, 20, 329–336. doi:[10.12659/msm.889989](https://doi.org/10.12659/msm.889989)
- Beck, A. T., Steer, R. A., & Brown, G. K. (1996). *Manual for the beck depression inventory-II*. San Antonio, TX: Psychological Corporation.
- Beck, A. T., Kovacs, M., & Weissman, A. (1979). Assessment of suicidal intention: The scale for suicide ideation. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 47, 343–352.
- Beck, A. T., Weissman, A., Lester, D., & Trexler, L. (1974). The measurement of pessimism: The hopelessness scale. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 42, 861–865.
- Botega, N. J., Soares de Azevedo, R. C., Mauro, M. L., Mitsushige, G., Fanger, P., Lima, D., ... Franco da Silva, Vi. (2010). Factors associated with suicide ideation among medically and surgically hospitalized patients. *General Hospital Psychiatry*, 32, 396–400. doi:[10.1016/j.genhosppsych.2010.02.004](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.genhosppsych.2010.02.004)
- Breitbart, W., Rosenfeld, B., Pessin, H., Kaim, M., Funesti-Esch, J., Galietta, M., ... Brescia, R. (2000). Depression, hopelessness, and desire for hastened death in terminally ill Patients with cancer. *JAMA*, 284, 2907–2911. doi:[10.1001/jama.284.22.2907](https://doi.org/10.1001/jama.284.22.2907)
- Brugha, T. S., & Cragg, D. (1990). The list of threatening experiences: The reliability and validity of a brief life events questionnaire. *Acta Psychiatrica Scandinavica*, 82, 77–81.
- Chang, C., Hayes, R. D., Broadbent, M. T. M., Hotopf, M., Davies, E., Möller, H., & Stewart, R. (2014). A cohort study on mental disorders, stage of cancer at diagnosis and subsequent survival. *BMJ Open*, 4, e004295. doi:[10.1136/bmjopen-2013-004295](https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2013-004295)
- Chochinov, H. M. (2001). Depression in cancer patients. *The Lancet Oncology*, 2, 499–505.
- Clark, L. A., & Harrison, J. A. (2001). Assessment instruments. In W. J. Livesley (Ed.), *Handbook of personality disorders: Theory, research, and treatment* (pp. 277–306). New York, NY: Guilford Press.
- Cohen, J. (1988). *Statistical power analysis for the behavioral sciences* (2nd ed.). Hillsdale, NJ: Erlbaum.
- Comeche, M. I., Diaz, M. I., & Vallejo, M. A. (1995). Cuestionarios, inventarios, escalas. Ansiedad, depresión y habilidades sociales [Questionnaires, inventories and scales. Anxiety, depression and social skills] (pp. 194–200). Madrid: Fundación Universidad-Empresa.
- Costantini, A., Pompili, M., Innamorati, M., Zezza, M. C., Di Carlo, A., Sher, L., & Girardi, P. (2014). Psychiatric pathology and suicide risk in patients with cancer. *Journal of Psychosocial Oncology*, 32, 383–395. doi:[10.1080/07347332.2014.917136](https://doi.org/10.1080/07347332.2014.917136)
- De la Grandmaison, G. L., Watier, L., Cavard, S., & Charlier, P. (2014). Are suicide rates higher in the cancer population? An investigation using forensic autopsy data. *Medical Hypotheses*, 82, 16–19. doi:[10.1016/j.mehy.2013.10.025](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.mehy.2013.10.025)
- Fang, C. K., Chang, M. C., Chen, P. J., Lin, C. C., Chen, G. S., Lin, J., ... Li, Y. C. (2014). A correlational study of suicidal ideation with psychological distress, depression, and demoralization in patients with cancer. *Supportive Care in Cancer*, 22, 3165–3174. doi:[10.1007/s00520-014-2290-4](https://doi.org/10.1007/s00520-014-2290-4)

- Ferlay, J., Steliarova-Foucher, E., Lortet-Tieulent, J., Rosso, S., Coebergh, J. W. W., Comber, H., ... Bray, F. (2012). Cancer incidence and mortality patterns in Europe: Estimates for 40 countries in 2012. *European Journal of Cancer*, 49, 1374–1403. doi:10.1016/j.ejca.2012.12.027
- García-Nieto, R., Parra Uribe, I., Palao, D., Lopez-Castroman, J., Sáiz, P. A., García-Portilla, M. P., & Baca-García, E. (2012). Protocolo breve de evaluación del suicidio, fiabilidad interexaminadores [Brief suicide questionnaire. Inter-rater reliability]. *Revista de Psiquiatría y Salud Mental*, 5, 24–36. doi:10.1016/j.rpsm.2011.10.001
- Gil, S., & Gilbar, O. (2001). Hopelessness among cancer patients. *Journal of Psychosocial Oncology*, 19, 21–33. doi:10.1300/J077v19n01_02
- Gomez-Campelo, P., Bragado-Alvarez, C., Hernandez-Lloreda, M. J., & Sanchez-Bernardos, M. L. (2014). The spanish version of the body image scale (s-bis): Psychometric properties in a sample of breast and gynaecological cancer patients. *Supportive Care Cancer*, 23, 473–481. doi:10.1007/s00520-014-2383-0
- Guthrie, P. C., & Mobley, B. D. (1994). A comparison of the differential diagnostic efficiency of three personality disorder inventories. *Journal of Clinical Psychology*, 50, 656–665.
- Herrero, M. J., Blanch, J., Peri, J. M., De Pablo, J., Pintor, L., & Bulbena, A. (2003). A validation study of the hospital anxiety and depression scale (HADS) in a Spanish population. *General Hospital Psychiatry*, 25, 277–283. doi: 10.1016/S0163-8343(03)00043-4
- Holland, J. C., & Alici, Y. (2010). Management of distress in cancer patients. *Journal of Supportive Oncology*, 8, 4–12.
- Hopwood, P., Fletcher, I., Lee, A., & Al Ghazal, S. (2001). A body image scale for use with cancer patients. *European Journal of Cancer*, 37, 189–197.
- Hoven, C. W., Mandell, D. J., & Bertolote, J. M. (2010). Prevention of mental ill-health and suicide: Public health perspectives. *European psychiatry: The Journal of the association of European Psychiatrists*, 25, 252–256. doi:10.1016/j.eurpsy.2010.01.011
- INE. (2014). Instituto nacional de estadística [National Statistics Institute]. [website]. Retrived from www.ine.es http://issuu.com/fsme/docs/estadisticas_suicidio_ine_2014
- Joiner, T. E., Van Orden, K. A., Witte, T. K., Selby, E. A., Ribeiro, J. D., Lewis, R., & Rudd, M. D. (2009). Main predictions of the interpersonal–psychological theory of suicidal behavior: Empirical tests in two samples of young adults. *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*, 118, 634–646. doi:10.1037/a0016500
- Kendal, W. S. (2007). Suicide and cancer: A gender-comparative study. *Annals of Oncology*, 18, 381–387. doi:10.1093/annonc/mdl385
- Kisely, S., Crowe, E., & Lawrence, D. (2013). Cancer-related mortality in people with mental illness. *JAMA Psychiatry*, 70, 209–217. doi:10.1001/jamapsychiatry.2013.278
- Lenzenweger, M. F., Loranger, A. W., Korfine, L., & Neff, C. (1997). Detecting personality disorders in a nonclinical population: Application of a 2-stage procedure for case identification. *Archives of General Psychiatry*, 54, 345–351.
- López-ibor, J., Pérez Urdániz, A., & Rubio Larrosa, V. (1996). *Examen internacional de los trastornos de la personalidad (ipde): Modulo dms-iv y cie-10* [The international personality disorder examination: dsm-iv and cie-10 modules]. Madrid: Meditor.
- Loranger, A. W., Sartorius, N., Andreoli, A., Berger, P., Buchheim, P., Channabasavanna, S.M., ... Regier, D. (1994). The international personality disorder examination: The World Health Organization/alcohol, drug abuse, and mental health administration international pilot study of personality disorders. *Archives of General Psychiatry*, 51, 215–224. doi:10.1001/archpsyc.1994.03950030051005
- Lu, D., Fall, K., Sparen, P., Ye, W., Adami, H. O., Valdimarsdottir, U., & Fang, F. (2013). Suicide and suicide attempt after a cancer diagnosis among young individuals. *Annals of Oncology*, 24, 3112–3117. doi:10.1093/annonc/mdt415
- Malvezzi, M., Bertuccio, P., Levi, F., La Vecchia, C., & Negri, E. (2013). European cancer mortality predictions for the year 2013. *Annals of Oncology*, 1–9. doi:10.1093/annonc/mdt010
- Mann, J. J., Waternaux, C., Haas, G. L., & Malone, K. M. (1999). Toward a clinical model of suicidal behavior in psychiatric patients. *American Journal of Psychiatry*, 156, 181–189.
- Massie, M. J. (2004). Prevalence of depression in patients with cancer. *Journal of the National Cancer Institute Monographs*, 32, 57–71. doi:10.1093/jncimonographs/lgh014
- Miovic, M., & Block, S. (2007). Psychiatric disorders in advanced cancer. *Cancer*, 110, 1665–1676. doi:10.1002/cncr.22980

- Miret, M., Caballero, F., Huerta-Ramírez, R., Moneta, M. V., Olaya, B., Chatterji, S., ... Ayuso-Mateos, J. L. (2014). Factors associated with suicidal ideation and attempts in Spain for different age groups. Prevalence before and after the onset of the economic crisis. *Journal of Affective Disorders*, 163, 1–9. doi:10.1016/j.jad.2014.03.045
- Misono, S., Weiss, N. S., Fann, J. R., Redman, M., & Yueh, B. (2008). Incidence of suicide in persons with cancer. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 26, 4731–4738. doi:10.1200/jco.2007.13.8941
- Mitchell, A. J., Chan, M., Bhatti, H., Halton, M., Grassi, L., Johansen, C., & Meader, N. (2011). Prevalence of depression, anxiety, and adjustment disorder in oncological, haematological, and palliative-care settings: A meta-analysis of 94 interview-based studies. *The Lancet Oncology*, 12, 160–174. doi:10.1016/s1470-2045(11)70002-x
- Oquendo, M., Galfalvy, H., Russo, S., Ellis, S., Grunebaum, M., Burke, A., & Mann, J. (2014). Prospective study of clinical predictors of suicidal acts after a major depressive episode in patients with major depressive disorder or bipolar disorder. *The American Journal of Psychiatry*, 161, 1433–1441. doi:10.1176/appi.ajp.161.8.1433
- Passik, S. D., & Theobald, D. E. (2000). Managing addiction in advanced cancer patients: Why bother? *Journal of Pain and Symptom Management*, 19, 229–234. doi:10.1016/S0885-3924(00)00109-3
- Quill, T. E. (2008). Suicidal thoughts and actions in cancer patients: The time for exploration is now. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 26, 4705–4707. doi:10.1200/jco.2008.18.3129
- Rajmohan, V., & Kumar, S. K. (2013). Psychiatric morbidity, pain perception, and functional status of chronic pain patients in palliative care. *Indian Journal of Palliative Care*, 19, 146–151. doi:10.4103/0973-1075.121527
- Recklitis, C. J., Diller, L. R., Li, X., Najita, J., Robison, L. L., & Zeltzer, L. (2010). Suicide ideation in adult survivors of childhood cancer: A report from the childhood cancer survivor study. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 28, 655–661. doi:10.1200/jco.2009.22.8635
- Reiche, N., Odebrecht Vargas Nunes, S., & Kaminami Morimoto, H. (2004). Stress, depression, the immune system, and cancer. *The Lancet Oncology*, 5, 617–625. doi:10.1016/S1470-2045(04)1597-9
- Robson, A., Scrutton, F., Wilkinson, L., & MacLeod, F. (2010). The risk of suicide in cancer patients: A review of the literature. *Psycho-Oncology*, 19, 1250–1258. doi:10.1002/pon.1717
- Sánchez, M. J., Payer, T., De Angelis, R., Larrañaga, N., Capocaccia, R., Martinez, C., & Group, for the CIBERESP Working. (2010). Cancer incidence and mortality in Spain: Estimates and projections for the period 1981–2012. *Annals of Oncology*, 21, iii30–iii36. doi:10.1093/annonc/mdq090
- Sanz, I., García-Vera, M. P., Espinosa, R., Fortún, M., & Vázquez, C. (2005). Adaptación española del inventario para la depresión de beck-ii (bdi-ii): 3. Propiedades psicométricas en pacientes con trastornos psicológicos [Spanish adaptation of the beck depression inventory II (bdi-ii): Psychometric properties in patients with psychological disorders]. *Clínica y Salud*, 16, 121–142.
- Schneider, K. L., & Shenassa, E. (2008). Correlates of suicide ideation in a population-based sample of cancer patients. *Journal of Psychosocial Oncology*, 26, 49–62. doi:10.1300/J077v26n02_04
- Spoletini, I., Gianni, W., Caltagirone, C., Madaio, R., Repetto, L., & Spalletta, G. (2011). Suicide and cancer: Where do we go from here? *Critical Reviews in Oncology/Hematology*, 78, 206–219. doi:10.1016/j.critrevonc.2010.05.005
- Tas, F., Karalar, U., Aliustaoglu, M., Keskin, S., Can, G., & Cinar, F. E. (2012). The major stressful life events and cancer: Stress history and cancer. *Medical Oncology*, 29, 1371–1377. doi:10.1007/s12032-011-9927-7
- Weinberger, M. I., Bruce, M. L., Roth, A. J., Breitbart, W., & Nelson, C. J. (2011). Depression and barriers to mental health care in older cancer patients. *International Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry*, 26, 21–26. doi:10.1002/gps.2497
- Yen, S., Pagano, M., Shea, M., Grilo, C., Gunderson, J., Skodol, A., ... Zanarini, M. (2005). Recent life events preceding suicide attempts in a personality disorder sample: Findings from the collaborative longitudinal personality disorders study. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 73, 99–105.
- Zigmond, A. S., & Snaith, R. P. (1983). The hospital anxiety and depression scale. *Acta Psychiatrica Scandinavica*, 67, 361–370.

Predictors of psychological distress in advanced cancer patients under palliative treatments

D. Díaz-Frutos Psy.D. in clinical and health psychology, Psycho-oncologist^{1,2,4} | E. Baca-García M.D., Ph.D., Head of Psychiatry¹ | J. García-Foncillas M.D., Ph.D., Head of Oncology² | J. López-Castroman M.D., Ph.D., Psychiatrist^{1,3}

¹Department of Psychiatry and Clinical Psychology, Fundación Jiménez Díaz Hospital, Autonomía University of Madrid (UAM), Madrid, Spain

²Department of Oncology, Fundación Jiménez Díaz Hospital, Autonomía University of Madrid (UAM), Madrid, Spain

³Department of Emergency Psychiatry, CHRU Montpellier, Montpellier, France

⁴Spanish Association Against Cancer (AECC), Barcelona, Spain

Correspondence

Daniel Díaz de Frutos, Clinical and Health Psychology, Departamento de Psiquiatría, Hospital Fundación Jiménez Díaz, Avenida Reyes Católicos, 2, 28028 Madrid, Spain.
Email: daniel.diaz@fjd.es

This work aims to investigate the factors associated with psychological distress in advanced cancer patients under palliative treatment. We comprehensively assessed the demographic, psychosocial and health factors of 158 advanced cancer patients. Patients with high and low distress, according to the Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale, were compared. A regression analysis was built to identify the best predictors of distress. Patients with high psychological distress (81%) were more likely to have lung cancer, suicidal ideation, hopelessness, low quality of life and poor body image than those without. In the multivariate model, only poor emotional functioning (OR = .89; 95% CI = .83–.95; $p \leq .001$), hopelessness (OR = .86; 95% CI = .78–.94; $p \leq .001$) and body image distortions (OR = .77; 95% CI = .68–.85; $p = .005$) were retained. High levels of hopelessness, impaired emotional functioning and body image distortions are the main factors associated with psychological distress in patients with advanced cancer. Potential interventions to modify these factors in palliative units are discussed.

KEYWORDS

body image, depression, hopelessness, oncology, quality of life

1 | INTRODUCTION

Advanced cancer is a stressful experience that affects all life's domains: physical, mental, financial, spiritual and marital (Delgado-Guay, Parsons, Li, Palmer, & Bruera, 2009; Lin & Bauer-Wu, 2003). This combination of factors often results in distress, a pragmatic term that according to the National Comprehensive Cancer Network can be used to minimise the stigma associated with mental illness (Holland & Alici, 2010). Psychological distress has been defined as "a multifactorial unpleasant emotional experience of a psychological, social and/or spiritual nature that may interfere with the ability to cope effectively with cancer, its psychological symptoms, and its treatment," and its estimated prevalence among cancer patients is situated around 40% (Holland & Alici, 2010). Distress is frequently expressed in oncological patients as a simultaneous presence of anxiety/depressive symptoms and quality of life impairments that may hinder the correct diagnosis and treatment of underlying mental conditions (Delgado-Guay et al. 2009; Holland & Alici, 2010;

Sellick & Edwardson, 2007; Skarstein, Aass, Fosså, Skovlund, & Dahl, 2000). The rates of depression and anxiety in patients with advanced cancer range 20%–50% and 20%–40% respectively. Of note, these figures come from studies with heterogeneous methodologies, as well as a wide range of sample sizes, tools and clinical features (Delgado-Guay et al. 2009; Irving & Lloyd-Williams, 2010; Mystakidou et al., 2005).

The management and assessment of distress is an important tool to avoid neglecting psychological issues that may exacerbate the symptoms of the illness and increase health care costs (Carlson & Bultz, 2003, 2004). There are several reasons that support this idea. In the first place, oncologic patients frequently report high levels of hopelessness and suicidal ideas (estimated rate: 7%–25%), and they show a higher risk of suicide than the general population (Botega et al., 2010; Díaz-Frutos, Baca-García, Mahillo-Fernández, & López-Castroman, 2015). Second, depression and anxiety affect the quality of life of oncologic patients in several domains (Brown, Kroenke, Theobald, Wu, & Tu, 2010; Delgado-Guay et al., 2009; Skarstein et al., 2000; Smith,

Gomm, & Dickens, 2003). Third, common symptoms of psychological distress such as insomnia, pain, fatigue or anorexia have a negative impact on the oncological process itself (Delgado-Guay et al., 2009; Redeker, Lev, & Ruggiero, 2000; Van Laarhoven et al., 2011). Fourth, psychological distress distorts the body image, and a poor body image impacts in turn the quality of life, the perceptions about the illness and the experience of emotional disturbances (Hopwood, Fletcher, Lee, & Al Ghazal, 2001). Last, high levels of depression and hopelessness during the oncological process have a detrimental impact on survival rates (Chang et al., 2014; Grassi et al., 2010; Mystakidou et al., 2008).

This work aims to investigate the factors associated with psychological distress in advanced cancer patients under palliative treatment. Thus, the assessment of psychological distress in advanced cancer patients during their hospitalisation in a medical oncology ward was based in anxiety and depression symptomatology, but other factors such as hopelessness or quality of life impairments were also evaluated. We have assessed demographic, psychosocial and clinical factors associated with high levels of distress among cancer inpatients under palliative treatments to determine the most relevant factors leading to the experience of psychological distress in this population. We hypothesise that the type of tumour as well as the impairments of body image and quality of life will be associated to higher levels of distress among oncological patients under palliative treatments.

2 | METHODS

2.1 | Participants

A total of 202 inpatients were recruited in a medical oncology ward from January 2012 until January 2014 at a Spanish hospital. For this study, we examined only patients with advanced cancer (life expectation of less than 6 months) that were receiving palliative treatments such as a palliative chemotherapy ($n = 158$, 78.2%). The remaining patients ($n = 44$) were under curative treatment (i.e. chemo/radiotherapy, surgery). Inclusion criteria were: (1) to present a primary tumour located in lung, colon-rectum or genitourinary area, which are the most frequent types of cancer in Spanish population (Sánchez et al., 2010); (2) to be 18–85 years old and, (3) to sign a written informed consent before participating in the study. The Spanish hospital research ethics committee approved the study.

2.2 | Assessment

We used a semi-structured interview with questionnaires to collect information about socio-demographic features, clinical information and essential psychological characteristics of the patients. The assessment of psychological distress was made through the Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale (HADS) (Zigmond & Snaith, 1983). The HADS has been designed to assess anxiety and depressive symptoms in a general medical population through 14 items, half of the items relate to anxiety (HADS-A) and the other half relate to depression (HADS-D). Each item on the questionnaire is scored from 0 to 3 and the

maximum score is 21. For this study we followed the criteria of Singer et al. (2009) that have previously defined the “balanced” cut-offs for cancer patients using HADS (Singer et al., 2009). Thus, patients with a HADS total score ≥ 13 were considered to present a significant level of psychological distress. HADS-D ≥ 5 and HADS-A ≥ 7 were the cut-offs for depression and anxiety respectively. HADS demonstrated to be a valid and reliable screening instrument against the DSM-IV criteria in different settings (Delgado-Guay et al., 2009), with an easy self-report administration and interpretation. We additionally used: (1) the Beck Depression Inventory (BDI-II) to measure the severity of depressive symptoms, including questions over somatic symptoms (Beck, Steer, Ball, & Ranieri, 1996); (2) the Quality of Life Questionnaire (QLQ-C-30), which assesses physical, psychological and social functioning related to the quality of life (Aaronson et al., 1993); (3) the Body Image Scale (BIS) to evaluate body image self-perception and sexuality in oncologic patients (Hopwood et al., 2001); (4) the Beck Hopelessness Scale (BHS) to examine thoughts and beliefs about the future (Beck, Weissman, Lester, & Trexler, 1974); (5) the Life Threatening Events (LTE) that examines stressful life events during the last year (Brugha & Cragg, 1990); (6) the Scale for Suicide Ideation (SSI) that evaluates ideas of suicide or death in clinical settings, we selected only five items that assess the main dimensions of suicidal ideas, given that palliative care patients were not necessarily suicidal (desire to live or to die, reasons to live or to die, suicide ideation and previous attempts; Beck, Kovacs, & Weissman, 1979) and (7) the International Personality Disorder Evaluation Screening Questionnaire (IPDE) to assess relevant traits and behaviours in the assessment of personality disorders according to the DSM-IV (Loranger et al., 1994). Both HADS and the QLQ-C-30 are frequently applied to describe the consequences of oncological illness in mental health and quality of life respectively (Cankurtaran et al., 2008; Hotopf, Addington-Hall, & Lan Ly, 2002; Mystakidou et al., 2005). A detailed description of the procedure and the Spanish validation of all questionnaires can be found elsewhere (Díaz-Frutos et al., 2015).

2.3 | Statistical analysis

To investigate the factors associated to psychological distress, we established two groups (high vs. low HADS scores). Univariate comparisons of socio-demographic features, clinical variables and assessment scores between these two groups were made using chi-squared tests and ANOVA as appropriate. Assessment scores in the different instruments (SSI, LTE, BHS, QLQ-C-30, BIS, IPDE) were specified as continuous variables. We tested the correlation between the assessment instruments and the HADS using Pearson's rho. Finally, a binary logistic regression model was built to estimate the adjusted ORs of the correlates of psychological distress. All independent variables that were significant ($p \leq .05$) in the univariate analysis were included in the logistic regression, as well as age and sex. Alpha was set to .05 (two-tailed). The variables retained in the regression model were used to construct a ROC curve according to their predicted probabilities. The best threshold values in the ROC curve were calculated using Youden's index. Analyses were performed with SPSS v17.0.

3 | RESULTS

3.1 | Sample description

The most relevant clinical features of the sample can be found in Table 1. Most patients were female (56.3%; $n = 89$), in cohabitation with someone (55.1%; $n = 87$), retired (64.6%; $n = 102$), 60 years of age or older (62.7%; $n = 99$), and had a high level of education (58.9%; $n = 93$) and income (55.7%; $n = 88$). Mean age was 63.8 ± 10.5 years. According to the HADS, 128 patients with advanced cancer (81%) endorsed psychological distress. Most of them screened positive for depression (HADS-D; $n = 139$, 88%)

and anxiety (HADS-A; $n = 113$, 71.5%). All assessment instruments were highly correlated with the HADS ($p \leq .001$) with the exception of LTE ($p = .79$) and IPDE ($p = .104$). The correlation between HADS and BDI in our sample was high (Spearman's $\rho = .437$; $p < .001$). Results using BDI as an outcome are not shown since they did not differ from those obtained with the HADS.

3.2 | Features associated with psychosocial distress (HADS)

Hereon, we will summarise only significant associations between clinical features and psychological distress (see details in Table 1).

TABLE 1 Characteristics of the sample according to the presence of psychological distress in the Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale (HADS)

Variables	Total ($n = 158$) n (%)	HADS < 13 ($n = 30$) n (%)	HADS ≥ 13 ($n = 128$) n (%)	Statistics F/χ^2 ($df = 1$)	p
Demographic					
Age (mean \pm SD)	63.80 \pm 10.46	64.23 \pm 9.48	63.70 \pm 10.71	.06	.80
Sex, female	89 (56.3)	18(20.2)	71 (79.8)	.20	.68
Marital status, in couple	87 (55.1)	17(19.5)	70 (80.5)	.03	.99
Educational level, high	93 (58.9)	15(16.1)	78 (83.9)	1.20	.30
Working status, retired	102 (64.6)	17(16.7)	85 (83.3)	.31	.39
Income, >1,500 €/month	88 (55.7)	17(19.3)	71 (80.7)	.01	.99
Clinical					
Type of cancer					
Lung	57 (36.1)	6 (10.5)	51 (89.5)	.04	.042
Colon-rectum	43 (27.2)	9 (20.9)	34 (79.1)	.14	.70
Male genito-urinary	13 (8.2)	3 (23.1)	10 (76.9)	.15	.69
Female genito-urinary	45 (28.5)	12 (26.7)	33 (73.3)	2.41	.12
Therapeutic approach, palliative	158 (78.2)	30 (19)	128(81)		
Assessment scales					
	Mean \pm SD	Mean \pm SD	Mean \pm SD		
LTE	3.28 \pm 2.19	3.23 \pm 1.99	3.29 \pm 2.24	.02	.88
SSI	1.59 \pm 1.73	0.40 \pm 0.89	1.87 \pm 1.76	19.43	$\leq .001$
BHS	9.26 \pm 4.63	4.63 \pm 3.53	10.34 \pm 4.17	47.96	$\leq .001$
HADS-A	8.56 \pm 3.71	3.87 \pm 2.08	9.66 \pm 3.10	94.67	$\leq .001$
HADS-D	9.82 \pm 4.18	4.03 \pm 2.17	11.17 \pm 3.28	127.8	$\leq .001$
BDI	22.54 \pm 9.24	11.43 \pm 5.49	25.15 \pm 7.92	80.57	$\leq .001$
BIS	6.71 \pm 7.11	1.97 \pm 3.02	7.82 \pm 7.34	18.27	$\leq .001$
QLQ-C-30					
Physical	13.34 \pm 4.10	9.70 \pm 2.96	14.19 \pm 3.86	35.51	$\leq .001$
Role	5.41 \pm 1.65	4.33 \pm 1.42	5.66 \pm 1.60	17.42	$\leq .001$
Cognitive	4.05 \pm 1.46	2.87 \pm 0.86	4.33 \pm 1.44	28.34	$\leq .001$
Emotional	9.37 \pm 2.47	6.53 \pm 1.81	10.03 \pm 2.11	69.72	$\leq .001$
Social	5.06 \pm 1.63	3.73 \pm 1.17	5.38 \pm 1.56	29.04	$\leq .001$
Global	9.26 \pm 2.76	6.73 \pm 0.49	9.85 \pm 2.42	38.39	$\leq .001$
IPDE	7.28 \pm 1.98	7.73 \pm 1.79	7.18 \pm 2.02	1.89	.17

The distribution of data for assessment scales is based on their reported cut-off or highest tertile. Significant results appear in bold type. HADS, Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scales; LTE, life of threatening experiences; SSI, Scale for suicide ideation; BHS, Beck Hopelessness Scale; BDI, Beck Depression Inventory; BIS, Body Image Scale; QLQ-C-30, Quality of Life Questionnaire; IPDE, International Personality Disorder Examination.

Regarding clinical features, distressed patients were more likely to be diagnosed with lung cancer ($\chi^2 = .42$; $df = 1$; $p = .04$), and to endorse more severe psychological symptoms, such as suicidal ideation ($F = 19.43$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$), hopelessness ($F = 47.96$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$), depression according to the BDI-II ($F = 80.57$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$) or the HADS-D ($F = 127.85$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$), anxiety ($F = 94.67$; $df = 1$; $p = .009$) and body image distortions ($F = 18.28$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$) than non-distressed patients.

Psychological distress was associated with low functioning in all dimensions of quality of life (QLQ-C-30 subscales): physical functioning ($F = 35.5$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$), role functioning ($F = 17.4$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$), cognitive functioning ($F = 28.3$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$), emotional functioning ($F = 69.7$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$), social functioning ($F = 29.0$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$) and global functioning ($F = 38.4$; $df = 1$; $p \leq .001$). All dimensions of QLQ C30 were significantly correlated with anxiety and depression scores as measured by the HADS ($p < .0001$), following Skarstein et al., 2000; see in Table 2.

3.3 | Regression model

The following variables were included in the regression model: age, gender, type of cancer, working status, SSI, BIS, BHS and all QLQ-C-30 subscales. Three factors remained associated to psychological distress in the logistic regression (Table 3):poor emotional functioning (OR = .89; 95% CI = .83-.95; $p \leq .001$), severe hopelessness (OR = .86; 95% CI = .78-.94; $p \leq .001$), and body image distortions (OR = .77; 95% CI = .68-.85; $p = .005$). Combined, the use of these three features provided a curve ROC with a threshold of .63 that identified accurately the occurrence of psychological distress in 95% of the oncologic patients (area under the ROC curve = 0.95, sensitivity = 0.95 and specificity = 0.83; Fig. 1). The best threshold values to identify psychologically distressed patients according to the ROC curve were 5.5 for hopelessness, 2.5 for the BIS and 8.5 for emotional functioning.

TABLE 2 Relation between different dimensions of QLQ-C-30 and anxiety and depression as measured by HADS

Dependent	Covariates	Pearson's rho	p value
PF	HADS-D	.55	<.0001
	HADS-A	.39	<.0001
CF	HADS-D	.64	<.0001
	HADS-A	.40	<.0001
SF	HADS-D	.44	<.0001
	HADS-A	.39	<.0001
RF	HADS-D	.45	<.0001
	HADS-A	.30	<.0001
EF	HADS-D	.38	<.0001
	HADS-A	.66	<.0001

Significant results appear in bold type.
 PF, physical function; CF, cognitive function; SF, social function; RF, role function; EF, emotional function; HADS, Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale.

TABLE 3 Predictors of psychological distress according to HADS screening

Predictor variables	OR	OR (95% CI)	p value
Emotional functioning	.89	.83-.95	≤.001
Hopelessness, BHS	.86	.78-.94	≤.001
Body image, BIS	.77	.68-.85	.005
Gender	.68	.56-.77	.21
Age	.75	.68-.83	.68
Suicidal ideation, SSI	.85	.65-1.05	.62
Global Functioning	.70	.68-.81	.35
Physical functioning	.84	.78-.89	.09
Role functioning	.56	.50-.62	.16
Cognitive functioning	.67	.58-.75	.20
Social functioning	.76	.70-.81	.89

Significant results appear in bold type. HADS, Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale.

4 | DISCUSSION

4.1 | Main findings

In this study, we aimed to investigate the relationship between psychosocial factors and the psychological distress experienced by hospitalised cancer patients under palliative treatments. To identify correctly a high proportion of the advanced cancer patients with high levels of psychological distress in a medical oncology ward, we included multifactor assessment for psychological and clinical factors (Holland & Alici, 2010; Irving & Lloyd-Williams, 2010; Singer et al., 2009). Over 80% of the patients under palliative treatments showed a screen positive result of psychological distress. Accordingly, nine of 10 patients experienced a significantly elevated level of depression and seven of 10 patients experienced high levels of anxiety. These rates are high compared to previous studies in advanced cancer patients where distress was around 40%, depression 37%–56% and anxiety 29%–44% (Delgado-Guay et al., 2009; Teunissen, de Graeff, Voest, & de Haes, 2007). In part, this increase is explained by the use of different cut-offs and the palliative setting (Mitchell, Meader, & Symonds, 2010). Patients who face imminent death probably need specific assessment instruments as well as specific interventions adapted to their psychological experiences (Thekkumpurath, Venkateswaran, Kumar, & Bennett, 2008). Interestingly, three aspects explained the largest part of risk for psychological distress according to the logistic regression: the loss of emotional functioning, the decay in personal image and the presence of high levels of hopelessness.

4.2 | Interpretation of the findings

In advanced cancer patients, severe quality of life impairments may be a consequence of the disease and its treatment that cause further distress (Delgado-Guay et al., 2009). Accordingly, distressed patients

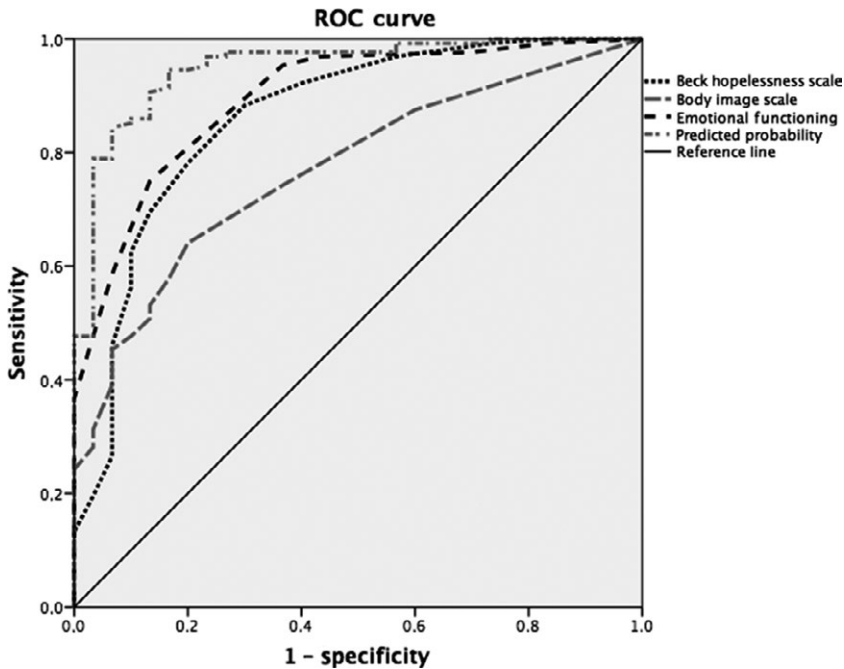


FIGURE 1 Receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve for high distress among advanced cancer patients

in our sample had more physical, social, role and cognitive impairments than non-distressed patients, but the main reported loss was in emotional functioning. This loss could be translated into an emotional numbing, which in turn leads to the feeling of being detached from others or isolated. In addition, advanced cancer has an important impact on body image. The loss of the patients' integrity together with the emotional distress can induce an spiral of negative emotions (e.g. social anxiety, depression), negative self-evaluation and negative behaviour patterns (Kissane et al., 2004; Rhondali et al., 2013).

The assessment of the construct of demoralisation should be taken into account in distressed patients (Grassi, Caruso, Sabato, Massarenti, & Nanni, 2014). The term "demoralisation" indicates the presence of existential distress, hopelessness, helplessness, and loss of meaning and purpose in life. Moderate to severe demoralisation has been reported in advanced cancer patients (Robinson, Kissane, Brooker, & Burney, 2014). In our sample, over 50% of patients endorsed high hopelessness, which is the hallmark of a demoralisation syndrome producing distress, depression and suicidal ideation (Díaz-Frutos et al., 2015; Fang et al., 2014; Van Laarhoven et al., 2011).

The prevalence of distress may be different across types of tumour. In our study, patients with advanced lung cancer (36.1%) presented significantly higher levels of distress than patients with other types of tumour (Zabora, BrintzenhofeSzoc, Curbow, Hooker, & Piantadosi, 2001). Advanced lung cancer carries poorer physical function (fatigue, breathlessness, weakness and fat loss), very poor prognosis and low survival (Brown, McMillan, & Milroy, 2005; Tanaka, Akechi, Okuyama, Nishiwaki, & Uchitomi, 2002).

Stressful life events and personality disorders were not associated with the experience of psychological distress. The experience of stressful life events has been associated with an unhealthy lifestyle but may also habituate patients to cope with incoming stress (Vissoci Reiche,

Odebrecht Vargas Nunes, & Kaminami Morimoto, 2004). Indeed, the positive changes associated with traumatic experiences have been conceptualised as posttraumatic growth (Sumalla, Ochoa, & Blanco, 2009). Regarding personality, previous studies have investigated its role in cancer initiation/progression with controversial and unclear results (Eysenck, 1994). Currently, individual differences are being studied as a modulating factor or coping skill for those facing a stressful situation (Carver & Connor-Smith, 2010; Segerstrom, 2003), but we did not find specific studies on personality and distress in advanced cancer patients.

Psychological interventions such as distress management or the treatment of mental disorders may reduce the health costs while increasing the well-being of the patients (Carlson & Bultz, 2003, 2004). Although some patients refuse to be treated, most studies indicate high acceptance rates of intervention programs (Andrykowski & Manne, 2006; Manne & Andrykowski, 2006). The effects of psycho-oncologic interventions on emotional distress and quality of life in adult patients with cancer have been well studied (Faller et al., 2013). Specifically for our study, palliative care units are made to provide comfort to the patient and family in a medical, psychosocial, existential and spiritual context (Chochinov, 2006). The importance of palliative care needs to be highlighted because patients, especially those under psychosocial distress, may refuse to be referred (Gerhart et al., 2015). Of note, their caregivers experience a huge burden and are also at risk of depression, social isolation and financial problems (Adelman, Tmanova, Delgado, Dion, & Lachs, 2014). Thus, well-designed palliative care services provide the necessary comfort for the patients and their relatives (Lin & Bauer-Wu, 2003).

Psychotherapy, especially with a cognitive-behavioural focus, and psychopharmacology are primarily used to manage depression, anxiety and various quality of life symptoms in advanced cancer patients (Price & Hotopf, 2009; Rao & Cohen, 2003; Roth & Massie,

2007; Uitterhoeve et al., 2004; Williams & Dale, 2006). However, few authors have attempted to improve body image in patients affected by cancer. Psychological interventions for the sexual consequences of cancer show significant improvement in body image, sexuality and psychological well-being (Brotto, Yule, & Breckon, 2010; Kalaitzi et al., 2007), but have not been applied in advanced cancer. However, advanced cancer patients share some characteristics with people with physical disabilities such as spinal cord injury or chronic pain (Kedde, van de Wiel, Schultz, Vanwesenbeeck, & Bender, 2010), who benefits from interventions on body image and sexuality. Complementary therapies including “prehabilitation” approaches and touch-oriented therapies, such as massages, exercise, breathing training or relaxation therapy, can also improve mood and physical symptomatology in advanced cancer patients (Ernst, 2009; Jensen, Bialy, Ketels, Bokemeyer, & Oechsle, 2014; Noel & Montagnini, 2011). Furthermore, a psychosocial intervention should include also caregivers to improve their competence, autonomy and relatedness (Badr, Smith, Goldstein, Gomez, & Redd, 2015), reducing the emotional gap with the patients.

4.3 | Strengths and limitations

Assessing psychological distress in patients under palliative treatment is complicated due to the simultaneous presence of physical and psychological symptoms (Ruijs, Kerkhof, Van der Wal, & Onwuteaka-Philipsen, 2013). Indeed, several authors use the term ‘appropriate sadness’ and indicate the difficulty of diagnosing a mental condition such as depression in this last phase of life (Holland & Alici, 2010; Irving & Lloyd-Williams, 2010). The main strengths of this study were the use of standardised clinical instruments in a comprehensive psychological evaluation of a large sample of patients under palliative treatment, as well as the use of higher HADS cut-offs to avoid neglecting patients in need of psychosocial help. We describe here the relationship between various psychosocial factors, but the cross-sectional nature of our study precludes any interpretations about causality or directionality. Besides, the limited sample size may have hidden the associations with demographic factors or the type of tumour. Larger or longitudinal studies would provide better evidence. Of note, HADS has been described as a good screening instrument for psychological distress but not for clinical depression in advanced cancer patients (Irving & Lloyd-Williams, 2010). Following the study by Singer et al. (2009), we chose a higher cut-off point for the HADS than in previous studies to prevent false negative results. Using a total HADS score of 20 would have reduced the number of distressed patients to approximately 40% of the sample but the regression model would have retained the same variables. Finally, a disadvantage of the study is the absence of information about potential confounding factors such as medical treatment or side effects, although their psychological effect is probably accounted for with the evaluation of quality of life.

5 | CONCLUSIONS

High levels of psychological distress in advanced cancer patients under palliative treatments are best predicted by impairments in emotional function, high hopelessness and distorted body image. These findings should inform interventions to reduce distress in palliative care.

ETHICAL CONSIDERATION

The study is part of a larger project which has been approved by a suitably constituted Ethics Committee of the hospital and conforms to the provisions of the Declaration of Helsinki.

REFERENCES

- Aaronson, N. K., Ahmedzai, S., Bergman, B., Bullinger, M., Cull, A., Duez, N. J., & Takeda, F. (1993). The European Organization for research and treatment of cancer QLQ-C30: A quality-of-life instrument for use in international clinical trials in oncology. *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*, 85, 365–376.
- Adelman, R., Tmanova, L., Delgado, D., Dion, S., & Lachs, M. (2014). Caregiver burden: A clinical review. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 311, 1052–1060.
- Andrykowski, M., & Manne, S. (2006). Are psychological interventions effective and accepted by cancer patients? I. Standards and levels of evidence. *Annals of Behavioral Medicine*, 32, 93–97.
- Badr, H., Smith, C., Goldstein, N., Gomez, J., & Redd, W. (2015). Dyadic psychosocial intervention for advanced lung cancer patients and their family caregivers: Results of a randomized pilot trial. *Cancer*, 121, 150–158.
- Beck, A. T., Kovacs, M., & Weissman, A. (1979). Assessment of suicidal intention: The Scale for Suicide Ideation. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 47, 343–352.
- Beck, A. T., Steer, R. A., Ball, R., & Ranieri, W. F. (1996). Comparison of Beck Depression Inventories-IA and-II in psychiatric outpatients. *Journal of Personality Assessment*, 67, 588–597.
- Beck, A. T., Weissman, A., Lester, D., & Trexler, L. (1974). The measurement of pessimism: The hopelessness scale. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 42, 861.
- Botega, N. J., Soares de Azevedo, R. C., Mauro, M. L., Mitsuushi, G., Fanger, P., Lima, D., ... & Franco da Silva, V. (2010). Factors associated with suicide ideation among medically and surgically hospitalized patients. *General Hospital Psychiatry*, 32, 396–400.
- Brotto, L., Yule, M., & Breckon, E. (2010). Psychological interventions for the sexual sequelae of cancer: A review of the literature. *Journal of Cancer Survivorship*, 4, 346–360.
- Brown, L. F., Kroenke, K., Theobald, D. E., Wu, J., & Tu, W. (2010). The association of depression and anxiety with health-related quality of life in cancer patients with depression and/or pain. *Psychooncology*, 19, 734–741.
- Brown, D., McMillan, D., & Milroy, R. (2005). The correlation between fatigue, physical function, the systemic inflammatory response, and psychological distress in patients with advanced lung cancer. *Cancer*, 103, 377–382.
- Brugha, T. S., & Cragg, D. (1990). The list of threatening experiences: The reliability and validity of a brief life events questionnaire. *Acta Psychiatrica Scandinavica*, 82, 77–81.

- Cankurtaran, E. S., Ozalp, E., Soygur, H., Ozer, S., Akbiyik, D. I., & Bottomley, A. (2008). Understanding the reliability and validity of the EORTC QLQ-C30 in Turkish cancer patients. *European Journal of Cancer Care*, 17, 98–104.
- Carlson, L. E., & Bultz, B. D. (2003). Cancer distress screening: Needs, models, and methods. *Journal of Psychosomatic Research*, 55, 403–409.
- Carlson, L. E., & Bultz, B. D. (2004). Efficacy and medical cost offset of psychosocial interventions in cancer care: Making the case for economic analyses. *Psychooncology*, 13, 837–849.
- Carver, C., & Connor-Smith, J. (2010). Personality and coping. *Annual Review of Psychology*, 61, 679–704.
- Chang, C., Hayes, R. D., Broadbent, M. T. M., Hotopf, M., Davies, E., Möller, H., & Stewart, R. (2014). A cohort study on mental disorders, stage of cancer at diagnosis and subsequent survival. *BMJ Open*, 4, 1–9. doi:10.1136/bmjopen-2013-004295
- Chochinov, H. M. (2006). Dying, dignity, and new horizons in palliative end-of-life care. *CA: A Cancer Journal for Clinicians*, 56, 84–103.
- Delgado-Guay, M., Parsons, H., Li, Z., Palmer, J., & Bruera, E. (2009). Symptom distress in advanced cancer patients with anxiety and depression in the palliative care setting. *Supportive Care in Cancer*, 17, 573–579.
- Díaz-Frutos, D., Baca-García, E., Mahillo-Fernández, I., & López-Castroman, L. (2015). Suicide ideation among oncologic patients in a Spanish ward. *Psychology, Health and Medicine*, 21, 261–271.
- Ernst, E. (2009). Massage therapy for cancer palliation and supportive care: A systematic review of randomised clinical trials. *Supportive Care in Cancer*, 17, 333–337.
- Eysenck, H. (1994). Cancer, personality and stress: Prediction and prevention. *Advances in Behaviour Research and Therapy*, 16, 167–215.
- Faller, H., Schuler, M., Richard, M., Heckl, U., Weis, J., & Küffner, R. (2013). Effects of psycho-oncologic interventions on emotional distress and quality of life in adult patients with cancer: Systematic review and meta-analysis. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 31, 782–793. doi:10.1200/JCO.2011.40.8922
- Fang, C. K., Chang, M. C., Chen, P. J., Lin, C. C., Chen, G. S., Lin, J., & Li, Y. C. (2014). A correlational study of suicidal ideation with psychological distress, depression, and demoralization in patients with cancer. *Supportive Care in Cancer*, 22, 3165–3174.
- Gerhart, J., Asvat, Y., Lattie, E., O'Mahony, S., Duberstein, P., & Hoerger, M. (2015). Distress, delay of gratification and preference for palliative care in men with prostate cancer. *Psychooncology*, 1, 91–96. doi: 10.1002/pon.3822
- Grassi, L., Caruso, R., Sabato, S., Massarenti, S., & Nanni, M. (2014). Psychosocial screening and assessment in oncology and palliative care settings. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 5, 1485. doi:10.3389/fpsyg.2014.01485
- Grassi, L., Travado, L., Gil, F., Sabato, S., Rossi, E., Tomamichel, M., ... & Group, T. S. (2010). Hopelessness and related variables among cancer patients in the Southern European Psycho-Oncology Study (SEPOS). *Psychosomatics*, 51, 201–207.
- Holland, J. C., & Alici, Y. (2010). Management of distress in cancer patients. *Journal of Supportive Oncology*, 8, 4–12.
- Hopwood, P., Fletcher, I., Lee, A., & Al Ghazal, S. (2001). A body image scale for use with cancer patients. *European Journal of Cancer*, 37, 189–197.
- Hotopf, M., Addington-Hall, J. C., & Lan Ly, K. (2002). Depression in advanced disease: A systematic review part 1. Prevalence and case finding. *Palliative Medicine*, 16, 81–97.
- Irving, G., & Lloyd-Williams, M. (2010). Depression in advanced cancer. *European Journal of Oncology Nursing*, 14, 395–399.
- Jensen, W., Bialy, L., Ketels, G., Bokemeyer, C., & Oechsle, K. (2014). Physical exercise and therapy in terminally ill cancer patients: A retrospective feasibility analysis. *Supportive Care in Cancer Patients*, 22, 1261–1268.
- Kalaitzi, C., Papadopoulos, V. P., Michas, K., Vlasis, K., Skandalakis, P., & Filippou, D. (2007). Combined brief psychosexual intervention after mastectomy: Effects on sexuality, body image, and psychological well-being. *Journal of Surgical Oncology*, 96, 235–240.
- Kedde, H., van de Wiel, H., Schultz, W., Vanwesenbeeck, W., & Bender, J. (2010). Efficacy of sexological healthcare for people with chronic diseases and physical disabilities. *Journal of Sex and Marital Therapy*, 36, 282–294.
- Kissane, D., Grabsch, B., Love, A., Clarke, D., Bloch, S., & Smith, G. (2004). Psychiatric disorder in women with early stage and advanced breast cancer: A comparative analysis. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry*, 38, 320–326.
- Lin, H. R., & Bauer-Wu, S. M. (2003). Psycho-spiritual well-being in patients with advanced cancer: An integrative review of the literature. *Journal of Advanced Nursing*, 44, 69–80.
- Loranger, A. W., Sartorius, N., Andreoli, A., et al. (1994). The international personality disorder examination: The world health organization/alcohol, drug abuse, and mental health administration international pilot study of personality disorders. *Archives of General Psychiatry*, 51, 215–224.
- Manne, S., & Andrykowski, M. (2006). Are psychological interventions effective and accepted by cancer patients? II. Using empirically supported therapy guidelines to decide. *Annals of Behavioral Medicine*, 32, 98–103.
- Mitchell, A., Meader, N., & Symonds, P. (2010). Diagnostic validity of the Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale (HADS) in cancer and palliative settings: A meta-analysis. *Journal of Affective Disorders*, 126, 335–348.
- Mystakidou, K., Tsilika, E., Parpa, E., Katsouda, E., Galanos, A., & Vlahos, L. (2005). Assessment of anxiety and depression in advanced cancer patients and their relationship with quality of life. *Quality of Life Research*, 14, 1825–1833.
- Mystakidou, K., Tsilika, E., Parpa, E., Pathiaki, M., Galanos, A., & Vlahos, L. (2008). The relationship between quality of life and levels of hopelessness and depression in palliative care. *Depression and Anxiety*, 25, 730–736.
- Noel, J., & Montagnini, M. (2011). Rehabilitation of the hospice and palliative care patient. *Journal of Palliative Medicine*, 14, 638–648.
- Price, A., & Hotopf, M. (2009). The treatment of depression in patients with advanced cancer undergoing palliative care. *Current Opinion in Supportive and Palliative Care*, 3, 61–66.
- Rao, A., & Cohen, H. J. (2003). Symptom management in the elderly cancer patient: Fatigue, pain, and depression. *Journal of the National Cancer Institute. Monographs*, 150–157.
- Redeker, N. S., Lev, E. L., & Ruggiero, J. (2000). Insomnia, fatigue, anxiety, depression, and quality of life of cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy. *Scholarly Inquiry for Nursing Practice*, 14, 275–290. Discussion 291–278.
- Rhondali, W., Chisholm, G., Daneshmand, M., Allo, J., Kang, D., Filbet, M., ... & Bruera, E. (2013). Association between body image dissatisfaction and weight loss among patients with advanced cancer and their caregivers: A preliminary report. *Journal of Pain and Symptom Management*, 45, 1039–1049.
- Robinson, S., Kissane, D., Brooker, J., & Burney, S. (2014). A review of the construct of demoralization history, definitions, and future directions for palliative care. *American Journal of Hospice and Palliative Medicine*, 33, 93–101.
- Roth, A. J., & Massie, M. J. (2007). Anxiety and its management in advanced cancer. *Current Opinion in Supportive and Palliative Care*, 1, 50–56.
- Ruijs, C. D. M., Kerkhof, A. J. F. M., Van der Wal, G., & Onwuteaka-Philipsen, B. (2013). Symptoms, unbearable and the nature of suffering in terminal cancer patients dying at home: A prospective primary care study. *BioMedCentral Family Practice*, 14, 201–210. doi: 10.1186/1471-2296-14-201

- Sánchez, M. J., Payer, T., De Angelis, R., Larrañaga, N., Capocaccia, R., & Martínez, C., & Group, F.T.C.W. (2010). Cancer incidence and mortality in Spain: Estimates and projections for the period 1981–2012. *Annals of Oncology*, 21(Suppl. 3), iii30–iii36.
- Segerstrom, S. (2003). Individual differences, immunity, and cancer: Lessons from personality psychology. *Brain, Behavior, and Immunity*, 17, 92–97.
- Sellick, S. M., & Edwardson, A. D. (2007). Screening new cancer patients for psychological distress using the hospital anxiety and depression scale. *Psychooncology*, 16, 534–542.
- Singer, S., Kuhnt, S., Gotze, H., Hauss, J., Hinz, A., Liebmann, A., ... & Schwarz, R. (2009). Hospital anxiety and depression scale cutoff scores for cancer patients in acute care. *British Journal of Cancer*, 100, 908–912.
- Skarstein, J., Aass, N., Fosså, S. D., Skovlund, E., & Dahl, A. A. (2000). Anxiety and depression in cancer patients: Relation between the Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale and the European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer Core Quality of Life Questionnaire. *Journal of Psychosomatic Research*, 49, 27–34.
- Smith, E., Gomm, S., & Dickens, C. (2003). Assessing the independent contribution to quality of life from anxiety and depression in patients with advanced cancer. *Palliative Medicine*, 17, 509–513.
- Sumalla, E., Ochoa, C., & Blanco, I. (2009). Posttraumatic growth in cancer: Reality or illusion? *Clinical Psychology Review*, 29, 24–33.
- Tanaka, K., Akechi, T., Okuyama, T., Nishiwaki, Y., & Uchitomi, Y. (2002). Impact of dyspnea, pain, and fatigue on daily life activities in ambulatory patients with advanced lung cancer. *Journal of Pain and Symptom Management*, 23, 417–423.
- Teunissen, S., de Graeff, A., Voest, E., & de Haes, J. (2007). Are anxiety and depressed mood related to physical symptom burden? A study in hospitalized advanced cancer patients. *Palliative Medicine*, 21, 341–346.
- Thekkumpurath, P., Venkateswaran, C., Kumar, M., & Bennett, M. (2008). Screening for psychological distress in palliative care: A systematic review. *Journal of Pain and Symptom Management*, 36, 520–528.
- Uitterhoeve, R., Vernooy, M., Litjens, M., Potting, K., Bensing, J., de Mulder, P., & van Achterberg, T. (2004). Psychosocial interventions for patients with advanced cancer – A systematic review of the literature. *British Journal of Cancer*, 91, 1050–1062.
- Van Laarhoven, H. W., Schilderman, J., Bleijenberg, G., Donders, R., Vissers, K. C., Verhagen, C. A., & Prins, J. B. (2011). Coping, quality of life, depression, and hopelessness in cancer patients in a curative and palliative, end-of-life care setting. *Cancer Nursing*, 34, 302–314.
- Vissoci Reiche, E., Odebrecht Vargas Nunes, S., & Kaminami Morimoto, H. (2004). Stress, depression, the immune system, and cancer. *The Lancet Oncology*, 5, 617–625.
- Williams, S., & Dale, J. (2006). The effectiveness of treatment for depression/depressive symptoms in adults with cancer: A systematic review. *British Journal of Cancer*, 94, 372–390.
- Zabora, J., BrintzenhofeSzoc, K., Curbow, B., Hooker, C., & Piantadosi, S. (2001). The prevalence of psychological distress by cancer site. *Psychooncology*, 10, 19–28.
- Zigmond, A. S., & Snaith, R. P. (1983). The hospital anxiety and depression scale. *Acta Psychiatrica Scandinavica*, 67, 361–370.

How to cite this article: Díaz-Frutos, D., Baca-García, E., García-Foncillas, J. and López-Castromán, J. (2016), Predictors of psychological distress in advanced cancer patients under palliative treatments. *European Journal of Cancer Care*, 00: 1–8. doi: 10.1111/ecc.12521

PSIC ∞ NCOLOGÍA

Aportes a la Comprensión y la Terapéutica



Claudio Rojas Jara
Yanina Gutiérrez Valdés

EDITORES

Nueva
Mirada
EDICIONES

PSIC∞NCOLOGÍA

Aportes a la Comprensión y la Terapéutica

Claudio Rojas Jara
Yanina Gutiérrez Valdés

EDITORES



Nueva
Mirada
EDICIONES



PSICOONCOLOGÍA

Aportes a la Comprensión y la Terapéutica

Editores:

Claudio Rojas Jara

Yanina Gutiérrez Valdés

Primera Edición: Agosto 2016.

Nueva Mirada Ediciones

Talca, Chile.

ISBN: 978-956-9812-03-3

Para contactar a los autores:

crojasj@ucm.cl

Diseño y diagramación:

Alejandro Abufom Heresi

abufom@gmail.com

Universidad Católica del Maule

Facultad de Ciencias de la Salud

Departamento de Psicología

PMI en Oncología, Región del Maule.

Ministerio del Educación.

Gobierno de Chile.

CAPÍTULO 5

La enfermedad oncológica: conductas suicidas y factores de riesgo asociados a su evolución

Pablo Méndez Bustos¹

Universidad Católica del Maule, Chile.

Daniel Díaz Frutos²

Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, España.

Introducción

El cáncer es la primera causa de muerte en los países desarrollados y la segunda causa de muerte en los países en desarrollo, con unos 13 millones de casos nuevos anuales y unos 8 millones de muertes en todo el mundo al año (Jemal, Siegel, Xu & Ward, 2010; Jemal y cols., 2011). El cáncer afecta a la globalidad de la vida de las personas que lo padecen, y su abordaje ha de ser también global mediante equipos multidisciplinares (Forrest, McMillan, McArdle & Dunlop, 2005; Taylor y cols., 2010; Fleissig, Jenkins, Catt & Fallowfield, 2006). Los equipos de psico-oncología son una parte más del equipo multidisciplinar que atiende al paciente oncológico.

Un desafío al que se enfrenta la psico-oncología es el de detectar y adaptarse a las necesidades de los pacientes, ya

1. Psicólogo, Universidad de Concepción. Magíster en Investigación Social y Desarrollo, Universidad de Concepción. Máster en Diseños de Investigación y Aplicaciones en Psicología y Salud, Universidad de Granada, España. Doctor en Psicología Clínica y de la Salud, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, España. Researcher Affiliate of the Center of Excellence for Cultural Competence (CECC) of the Columbia University Medical Center, New York. Académico Departamento de Psicología, Facultad de Ciencias de la Salud, Universidad Católica del Maule, Chile. Correspondencia dirigirla a: pmen-dezb@gmail.com

2. Psicólogo, Psico-oncólogo, Máster en Psico-oncología, Máster en Mujeres y Salud, Máster Psico-farmacología, Doctorando en Psicología Clínica y de la Salud. Correspondencia dirigirla a: valdeszamarron@gmail.com

que no todos precisan asistencia psicológica o psiquiátrica por el hecho de tener cáncer (Braeken y cols., 2011; Warmenhoven, Van Rijswijk, Van Weel, Prins & Vissers, 2011; Brix y cols., 2008). Sin embargo, las alteraciones psicológicas y psiquiátricas que presentan los pacientes en relación con su enfermedad oncológica están muchas veces subdiagnosticadas y sin ningún tipo de tratamiento (Massie, 2004; Holland y cols., 2010; Weinberger, Bruce, Roth & Nelson, 2011). Menos del 10% de pacientes oncológicos son derivados para valoración por un especialista en Salud Mental (Weinberger y cols., 2011).

La incidencia del suicidio en personas con cáncer es superior, entre 1,3 y 2,6 veces, a la de la población general (Nock, Hwang, Sampson & Kessler, 2010; Akechi y cols., 2004; Bjorkenstam y cols., 2005). Se cree que el suicidio en los pacientes con cáncer viene mediado en la mayoría de casos, al igual que en la población general, por enfermedades mentales (Nock y cols., 2010; Robson, Scrutton, Wilkinson & MacLeod, 2010; Walker y cols., 2008).

En este capítulo se exponen datos epidemiológicos de la enfermedad oncológica y su relación con las conductas suicidas y además se agrega un apartado que propone un breve análisis de la importancia de los cuidadores y el impacto en de su rol en este tipo de pacientes.

Conceptualización y epidemiología de la conducta suicida en pacientes oncológicos

En las últimas décadas el cáncer ha presentado un progresivo aumento en el mundo. Durante el año 2012 en América del Sur se registraron más de 600.000 casos de cáncer con una mortalidad cercana a las 400.000 personas. Se espera para el año 2030 un incremento del 67% de nuevos casos en América Latina representando a 1.8 millones de nuevos pacientes diagnosticados (Torre y cols., 2015). En Chile cada año se producen más de 22.000 muertes por cáncer y se registran más de 40 mil nuevos casos, siendo los más frecuentes el de estómago, próstata y mama. Además, se ha convertido en la segunda

causa de muerte después de las enfermedades cardiovasculares (OMS, 2014).

Por otra parte, en el mundo se producen más de un millón de suicidios cada año transformándose en uno de los principales problemas de salud pública. En América Latina, la tasa de suicidio es relativamente baja correspondiendo a 7.3 muertes por cada 100 mil personas, aunque se identificaron tasas considerablemente más altas de 14.2 y 11.2 muertes por cada 100 mil habitantes en Uruguay y Chile respectivamente (OMS, 2014). Este último país ha experimentado en los últimos 15 años un aumento sostenido de las tasas de suicidio (55% entre 1999-2005), siendo el segundo país de la Organización para la Cooperación y el Desarrollo Económico (OCDE) con la más alta variación porcentual (OCDE, 2011).

La conducta suicida es un problema multidimensional complejo que resulta de una interacción dinámica de factores biológicos, genéticos, psicológicos, económicos, sociodemográficos y culturales (Borges, Orozco, Benjet & Medina-Mora, 2010; Nock y cols., 2010). Estudios epidemiológicos realizados en distintas culturas y países muestran diferencias de género en el desarrollo y ejecución de las conductas suicidas. Las mujeres realizan más intentos suicidas (Aghanwa, 2004); sin embargo, los hombres presentan una mayor tasa de suicidio consumado (Beautrais, 2003). En países desarrollados, los suicidios son 2 a 4 veces más frecuentes entre hombres (Denney, Rogers, Krueger & Wadsworth, 2009; Värnik et al., 2009) mientras que los intentos suicidas son 2 a 3 veces más frecuente entre mujeres (Nock y cols., 2010). La evidencia muestra que la tasa de suicidios se incrementa con la edad en ambos grupos mientras que al mismo tiempo los intentos decrecen (Carroll-Ghosh, Victor & Bourgeois, 2003; Sudak, 2005). Además, los análisis indican que las personas que se suicidan o que intentan suicidarse presentan algún trastorno psiquiátrico, representando el 47-74% de la población en riesgo de suicidio (Nock y cols., 2010).

En general, las personas diagnosticadas de cáncer pueden presentar alteraciones psicológicas y físicas (Holland

& Alici, 2010; Spoletini y cols., 2011) muchas veces consideradas normales, y que se espera disminuyan durante el curso de la enfermedad. Sin embargo, estas alteraciones pueden representar el inicio de futuros cuadros psicopatológicos asociados a trastornos afectivos y/o ansiosos que pueden afectar el proceso oncológico y su pronóstico, con prevalencias de hasta 50% y 40% respectivamente (Chochinov, 2001; Massie, 2004; Mitchell y cols., 2011; Walker y cols., 2014). Entre un 10 a 30% de los pacientes oncológicos son derivados a los servicios de salud mental (Holland & Alici, 2010; Weinberger, Bruce, Roth, Breitbart & Nelson, 2011) por lo que este tipo de trastornos pueden ser subdiagnosticados y permanecer sin tratamiento, aumentando el riesgo de conductas suicidas. Recientes estudios encontraron dos veces más suicidios en pacientes oncológicos que en la población general y rangos de ideación suicida entre 10-40% en pacientes con cáncer (Diaz-Frutos, Baca-García, Mahillo-Fernandez, García-Foncillas & López-Castroman, 2015; Misono, Weiss, Fann, Redman & Yueh, 2008). El riesgo de cometer conductas suicidas aumenta durante las primeras semanas de ser diagnosticados y se mantienen los primeros cinco años de la enfermedad asociado a la extensión del cáncer (metástasis, cáncer avanzado), el tipo de tumor (pulmón, páncreas, cabeza y cuello, mama, estómago), y el sufrimiento o alteración de la calidad de vida ocasionado por el curso de la patología (Quill, 2008; Spoletini y cols., 2011).

Finalmente, entre el 20-40% de los pacientes diagnosticados de cáncer presentan un aumento del malestar psicológico, asociado a una mayor presencia de sintomatología depresiva y ansiosa y un deterioro de su calidad de vida (Delgado-Guay, Parsons, Li, Palmer & Bruera, 2009; Rajmohan & Kumar, 2013). Otros factores clínicos y psicológicos estudiados en pacientes con cáncer asociados al riesgo suicida han sido los trastornos por abuso de sustancias (Botega y cols., 2010; Passik & Theobald, 2000), trastornos psicóticos y alteraciones de la personalidad los que pueden disminuir las expectativas de supervivencia (Chang y cols., 2014; Miovic & Block, 2007) y por otro lado, otro factor de riesgo identificado,

ha sido la continuidad del malestar en supervivientes al cáncer (Lu y cols., 2013; Recklitis y cols., 2010).

Cáncer y suicidio

Los resultados encontrados indican que el suicidio en pacientes con cáncer son 2 a 3 veces superiores a la población general (Miller, Mogun, Azrael, Hempstead & Solomon, 2008; Misono y cols., 2008; Nasser, Mills, Mirshahidi & Moulton, 2012). Entre un .02-.26% de las personas con cáncer cometen suicidio, presentando los hombres mayor riesgo de conductas suicidas que las mujeres (Johnson, Garlow, Brawley & Master, 2012; Kendal, 2007; Kendal & Kendal, 2015). Las ratios de suicidios en pacientes con cáncer varían según el tipo de tumor, se ha encontrado que 26 por cada 100.000 personas-año con cáncer de testículo cometieron suicidio (Alanee & Russo, 2012), 135.4 por cada 100.000 personas año con cáncer de páncreas (Turaga, Malafa, Jacobsen, Schell & Sarr, 2011), 274.7 por cada 100.000 con cáncer de próstata (Llorente y cols., 2005), en mujeres con cáncer ginecológico el ratio de suicidio fue de 8.3 por cada 100.000 personas-años, con una ratio de mortalidad estandarizada de 1.4 (Mahdi y cols., 2011) y como media aproximada de 31.4 por cada 100,000 personas-años con ratios más altas en los 5 años posteriores al diagnóstico, en pacientes con cáncer de pulmón 5.74, estómago 4.68, cavidad oral y faringe 3.66, y laringe 2.83 (Misono y cols., 2008).

En Europa la prevalencia del suicidio en pacientes oncológicos también es alta. En Francia el 8.6% de los casos se asocia a suicidio (De la Grandmaison, Watier, Cavard & Charlier, 2014), hasta el 50% en hombres y 40% en mujeres de Dinamarca, donde además el riesgo de suicidio fue más alto en los 3 primeros meses para hombres y primer año para las mujeres (Yousaf, Christensen, Engholm & Storm, 2005). En Noruega el riesgo de suicidio fue mayor durante el primer mes del diagnóstico, para ambos sexos. El riesgo fue de 1.55 para hombres con cáncer en órganos respiratorios (4.08) y 1.35 para mujeres (Hem, Loge, Haldorsen & Ekeberg, 2004). En

Inglaterra se encontró un alto riesgo de suicidio en hombres (1.45) y moderado en mujeres 1.19 durante en el primer año de diagnóstico de cáncer y con tumores con mayor riesgo de mortalidad (hombres 2.67 y mujeres 2.17) (Robson, Scrutton, Wilkinson & MacLeod, 2010) similar en Escocia donde el riesgo de suicidio fue 1.51 (Camidge y cols., 2007). En Lituania, mayor riesgo de suicidio relativo para hombres de 1.43 y mujeres de 1.32 (Smailyte y cols., 2013). En Suecia el riesgo de suicidio entre pacientes con cáncer fue de 12.6 durante la primera semana y 3.1 durante el primer año (Fang y cols., 2012), en otro estudio sueco el riesgo se incremento en 2.5 inmediatamente después del diagnóstico y durante el primer año 1.5 (Lu y cols., 2013).

Otros países tienen cifras parecidas y aportan más datos respecto a los factores de riesgo de suicidio en pacientes con cáncer, por ejemplo, en Canadá el riesgo de suicidio fue particularmente alto en los primeros 90 días tras el diagnóstico (Bolton, Walld, Chateau, Finlayson & Sareen, 2015), similar a Taiwán con una media de intervalo de suicidio tras el alta fue de 39.7 días y dónde casi la mitad (46.3%) de los suicidios ocurrieron 14 días después (Chung & Lin, 2010; Lin, Wu & Lee, 2009). En Corea del Sur, el ratio de suicidio en pacientes con cáncer fue alto (2.00). Las ratios fueron más altas después del diagnóstico (3.45) y se mantuvieron elevadas 5 años después (1.23); principalmente para el cáncer de páncreas en hombres y cáncer de pulmón en mujeres (Ahn y cols., 2010). Finalmente en Australia, el 0.3% de los pacientes cometieron suicidio, en su mayoría hombres (108). El ratio de suicidio en pacientes con cáncer fue 1.61, a los tres primeros meses fue de 5.75 en los tumores con peor pronóstico (Dormer, McCaul & Kristjanson, 2008).

Cáncer e ideación suicida

La prevalencia de ideación suicida en EEUU fue de 17.7% (Schneider & Shenassa, 2008), en pacientes supervivientes de cáncer de próstata se observó un 3.6-17.9% de ideación suicida

(Zhou, Hu, Kantoff & Recklitis, 2015). Por otra parte, un 7.8% de los supervivientes de cáncer infantil reportaron ideación suicida (Recklitis y cols., 2010). Otros estudios encontraron que entre un 8% y un 22.6% de los pacientes con cáncer reportaron ideación suicida (Costantini y cols., 2014; Spencer, Ray, Pirl & Prigerson, 2012; Walker y cols., 2008) hasta un 41% en Japón (Akechi y cols., 2010). En Corea del sur el 34.7% de los supervivientes al cáncer de estómago presentaron ideación suicida (Choi y cols., 2014). Al igual que en Suecia donde un 7% de los participantes presentaron ideación suicida asociada a peor calidad de vida (Lehulante & Fransson, 2014).

Por último, enfatizar que la evidencia encontrada plantea que uno de los factores de riesgo asociados al suicidio en pacientes con cáncer corresponde al lugar en el que está ubicado el tumor y cómo afecta en la toma de decisiones de las personas sobre el suicidio. Aunque existen una gran cantidad de artículos específicos en cuanto a la localización y el riesgo suicida, también hay un gran número que recogen varios o casi la totalidad de neoplasias (Dormer y cols., 2008; Hem y cols., 2004; Panczak y cols., 2013; Smailyte y cols., 2013; Yamauchi y cols., 2014). Sin embargo, existen claras evidencias que padecer de cáncer de pulmón, páncreas, cabeza y cuello o estómago está relacionado con mayores riesgo de conductas suicidas (Balci Sengul, Kaya, Sen & Kaya, 2014; Kendal, 2007; Misono y cols., 2008; Vyssoki y cols., 2015).

La salud de las personas cuidadoras

Las personas que se encargan del cuidado de personas con dependencia de larga duración con limitaciones físicas, mentales o cognitivas pueden ser los propios familiares o conocidos (cuidado informal) con el objetivo de suplir la discapacidad en las actividades básicas e instrumentales de la vida diaria, sin remuneración y sólo con la satisfacción del cuidado (Yanguas Lezaun, Leturia Arrazola & Leturia Arrázola, 2000). Por otra parte, pueden ser los y las profesionales sanitarios (cuidados formales) que ofrecen servicios remunerados y sistematizados

por parte del sistema público o privado (García Férez, 2003; Rogero-García, 2009). En cuanto a su salud, las familias que cuidan de pacientes se pueden llegar a encontrar ante situaciones de estrés que incrementan el riesgo de padecer diversos problemas psicológicos y fisiológicos, especialmente ansiedad y depresión (Cuéllar-Flores, Sánchez-López, Liminana-Gras & Colodro-Conde, 2014; Manso-Martínez, Sánchez-López & Cuéllar-Flores, 2013). La pareja suele ser cuidador/a principal, y son las mujeres las que se ocupan de los cuidados del esposo en un 97,8% y dedican más tiempo en horas de cuidado (Rogero-García, 2009, 2010). Esto supone una desigualdad de género en salud, reflejando las distintas oportunidades y recursos a los que no pueden acceder ciertos grupos desfavorecidos, retratándose en una peor salud (Borrell & Benach, 2006).

En el ámbito geriátrico y oncológico, el grupo de profesionales de salud (Menezes de Lucena Carvalho y cols., 2006) y familiares (Cuéllar-Flores, et al., 2012) se encargan de tareas muy arduas como la limpieza, actividades básicas diarias del paciente, toma de decisiones de sus responsabilidades personales (gastos, recursos sociales y otras cargas familiares) durante un tiempo prolongado puede convertirse en una tarea física y emocionalmente agotadora para las personas cuidadoras, e influir de forma negativa sobre su salud y bienestar personal.

Parece existir una asociación entre los roles tradicionales (masculinidad y feminidad) y una mejor salud mental, por ejemplo, mujeres que se encuentran conformes a las normas sociales y se encargan de los cuidados de otras personas tienden a mostrar más efectos físicos, como cansancio, insomnio y dolor pero menos efectos de malestar emocional cuando están con la persona enferma (Sánchez-López y cols., 2008; Sánchez-López, Rivas-Diez & Cuéllar-Flores, 2013; Sánchez-López, Saavedra, Dresch & Limiñana, 2014). Como se expuso antes, también existen conductas desadaptativas asociadas al rol de género, como peor salud, baja autoestima y más ansiedad y depresión en mujeres, asociado principalmente a su carga de cuidados (Sánchez-Herrero Arbide y cols.,

2011; Sánchez-López y cols., 2015), y mayor agresividad en hombres, asociada a un rol tradicional masculino que puede a su vez tener relación con un mayor consumo de tabaco y alcohol (Liu & Iwamoto, 2007; Sánchez-López y cols., 2013). Además, incrementa las conductas sexuales violentas que ocurren bajo los efectos del alcohol, influidas por las variables socioculturales y tradicionales como son el poder y la dominancia (Locke & Mahalik, 2005). Los trastornos emocionales y los trastornos de personalidad y conducta pueden aparecer o empeorar según diferentes situaciones en las que las mujeres y hombres se puedan encontrar, como sobrecarga, desempleo, falta de estudios o en situación de estar sin hogar; y cómo se ven afectados por las políticas sociales o su ausencia, o por la discriminación en las esferas sociales (Bird & Rieker, 2008; Sánchez-López y cols., 2012).

En cuanto a la salud, sobretudo en el campo del síndrome de burnout, como reacción primaria a los contextos familiares y laborales, se ha encontrado que el neuroticismo, el psicoticismo y la ansiedad se relacionan con niveles más altos de malestar psicológico y laboral en el personal cuidador, mientras que la apertura, la extraversión y la agradabilidad trabajan como factores protectores (Alishahi, 2014; Gomez-Cantorna y cols., 2015). El burnout aparece por tanto por la insatisfacción laboral, las condiciones negativas familiares y sociales y la falta de apoyo social y familiar (Garrosa y cols., 2008; Georganta, Montgomery, Tsinga & Panagoulou, 2012). Es importante, dirigir la ayuda terapéutica hacia la mejora de estos problemas, y por otro lado, promover el *hardiness* o personalidad resistente (como un conjunto de estrategias de afrontamiento personales, capacidad de concreción del problema y solución del mismo) que se ha visto que está asociada a mejor salud y trabaja también como un factor protector contra el burnout (Garrosa y cols., 2008, 2010; Gito, Ihara & Ogata, 2013; Ríos Rísquez, Sánchez Meca & Godoy Fernández, 2010; Saksvik-Lehouillier, 2012). En definitiva, el estrés laboral y el efecto negativo, principalmente las complicaciones psicosomáticas, se encuentra entre el 20%-25%, en las perso-

nas cuidadoras. En conclusión, prestar una atención social y psicológica adecuada a las personas cuidadoras informales (e.g. la familia) y formales (e.g. enfermería) supone cuidar de las personas que cuidan. Una persona cuidadora, puede suponer mejoría o agravamiento tanto de la salud y calidad de vida del paciente y además generar consecuencias socio-económica al sistema de salud.

Desde la atención al paciente al cuidado de la persona cuidadora

La repercusión que tienen los distintos factores de riesgo en la evolución de la enfermedad oncológica y su implicación en las conductas suicidas depende en gran medida de las diferencias que pueden existir entre países en cuanto al sistema de salud, sistema familiar y prevención de riesgos. La presencia probable de trastornos psiquiátricos en pacientes oncológicos y su relación con la aparición de conductas suicidas deja de manifiesto la relevancia de que los equipos de profesionales de la salud se coordinen y trabajen juntos por la persona, atendiendo a su bienestar físico, mental, existencial y social. La identificación temprana y la entrega oportuna de un tratamiento farmacológico y psicológico, en los momentos críticos y sobre todo considerando la evolución de la enfermedad a diferentes niveles favorecerán una mejor calidad de vida del paciente y su entorno.

Muchos de los estudios sobre suicidio mencionan cómo los pacientes buscan ayuda en sus círculos, familiares o profesionales. Los cuidadores, formales e informales, cumplen un rol fundamental en el pronóstico y evolución del paciente oncológico. Considerando las circunstancias de alta demanda y estrés a las cuales se ven enfrentados se hace necesario enfatizar la importancia de su propio cuidado. Asegurar una buena salud mental de los cuidadores es un factor clave que facilitará la intervención y la detección temprana de sintomatología asociada al desarrollo de conductas suicidas o el malestar que lleva al suicidio. Por lo tanto, una identificación temprana y un cuidado óptimo al paciente, al familiar y al profesional, son

claves en la prevención e intervención del riesgo suicida en pacientes oncológicos.

Referencias bibliográficas

- Aghanwa, H. (2004). The determinants of attempted suicide in a general hospital setting in fiji islands: A gender-specific study. *General Hospital Psychiatry*, 26(1), 63-69.
- Ahn, E., Shin, D., Cho, S., Park, S., Won, Y., & Yun, Y. (2010). Suicide rates and risk factors among korean cancer patients, 1993-2005. *Cancer Epidemiology Biomarkers & Prevention*, 19(8), 2097-2105.
- Akechi, T., Okamura, H., Nakano, T., Akizuki, N., Okamura, M., Shimizu, K., & Uchitomi, Y. (2010). Gender differences in factors associated with suicidal ideation in major depression among cancer patients. *Psycho-oncology*, 19(4), 384-389.
- Akechi, T., Okuyama, T., Sugawara, Y. y cols. (2004). Major depression, adjustment disorders, and post-traumatic stress disorder in terminally ill cancer patients: associated and predictive factors. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 22, 1957-65.
- Alanee, S., & Russo, P. (2012). Suicide in men with testis cancer. *European Journal of Cancer Care*, 21(6), 817-821.
- Alishahi, A. (2014). Mediating role of perceived control in the impact of personal qualities' on job stress among hospital staff. *International Journal of Hospital Research*, 3(1), 37-42.
- Balci Sengul, M., Kaya, V., Sen, C., y Kaya, K. (2014). Association between suicidal ideation and behavior, and depression, anxiety, and perceived social support in cancer patients. *Medical Science Monitor*, 20, 329-336.
- Beautrais, A. (2003). Suicide and serious suicide attempts in youth: a multiple-group comparison study. *The American Journal of Psychiatry*, 160(6), 1093-1099.
- Bird, C., & Rieker, P. (2008). *Gender and health: the effects of constrained choices and social policies*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Bjorkenstam, C., Edberg, A., Ayoubi, S., y cols. (2005). Are cancer patients at higher suicide risk than the general po-

- pulation?. *Scandinavian Journal of Public Health*, 33, 208-214.
- Bolton, J., Walld, R., Chateau, D., Finlayson, G., & Sareen, J. (2015). Risk of suicide and suicide attempts associated with physical disorders: a population-based, balancing score-matched analysis. *Psychological Medicine*, 45(03), 495-504.
- Borges, G., Orozco, R., Benjet, C., & Medina-Mora, M. (2010). Suicidio y conductas suicidas en México: retrospectiva y situación actual. *Salud Pública de México*, 52, 292-304.
- Borrell, C., & Benach, J. (2006). La evolución de las desigualdades en salud en Cataluña. Grupo de trabajo CPS-FJ Bofill. Gaceta. *Sanitaria*, 20(5), 396-406.
- Botega, N., Soares de Azevedo, R., Mauro, M., Mitsushashi, G., Fanger, P., Lima, D., & Franco da Silva, V. (2010). Factors associated with suicide ideation among medically and surgically hospitalized patients. *General Hospital Psychiatry*, 32(4), 396-400.
- Braeken, A., Kempen, G., Eekers, D., Van Gils, F., Houben, R., & Lechner, L. (2011). The usefulness and feasibility of a screening instrument to identify psychosocial problems in patients receiving curative radiotherapy: a process evaluation. *BioMedCentral Cancer*, 11, 479.
- Brix, C., Schleussner, C., Füller, J., Roehrig, B., Wendt, T., & Strauss, B. (2008). The need for psychosocial support and its determinants in a sample of patients undergoing radiooncological treatment of cancer. *Journal of Psychosomatic Research*, 65, 541-548.
- Camidge, D., Stockton, D., Frame, S., Wood, R., Bain, M. & Bateman, D. (2007). Hospital admissions and deaths relating to deliberate self-harm and accidents within 5 years of a cancer diagnosis: A national study in Scotland, UK. *British journal of cancer*, 96(5), 752-757.
- Carroll-Ghosh, T., Victor, B., & Bourgeois, J. (2003). Suicide. In R.E. Hales, & S.C. Yudofsky, (Ed.), *The american psychiatric publishing textbook of clinical psychiatry*. Washington D.C.: American Psychiatric Publishing, Inc.

- S., Horner, R., & Olsen, E. (2005). Prostate cancer: a significant risk factor for late-life suicide. *The American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry*, 13(3), 195-201.
- Locke, B., & Mahalik, J. (2005). Examining masculinity norms, problem drinking, and athletic involvement as predictors of sexual aggression in college men. *Journal of Counseling Psychology*, 52(3), 279.
- Lu, D., Fall, K., Sparen, P., Ye, W., Adami, H., Valdimarsdottir, U., & Fang, F. (2013). Suicide and suicide attempt after a cancer diagnosis among young individuals. *Annals of Oncology*, 24(12), 3112-3117.
- Mahdi, H., Swensen, R., Munkarah, A., Chiang, S., Luhrs, K., Lockhart, D., & Kumar, S. (2011). Suicide in women with gynecologic cancer. *Gynecologic Oncology*, 122(2), 344-349.
- Manso-Martínez, M., Sánchez-López, M., & Cuéllar-Flores, I. (2013). Salud y sobrecarga percibida en personas cuidadoras familiares de una zona rural. *Clínica y Salud*, 24(1), 37-45.
- Massie, M. (2004). Prevalence of depression in patients with cancer. *JNCI Monographs*, (32), 57-71.
- Menezes de Lucena Carvalho, V., Contador, I., Ramos-Campos, F., Fernández Calvo, B., & Hernández Martín, L. (2006). Resiliencia y el modelo burnout-engagement en cuidadores formales de ancianos. *Psicothema*, 18(4), 791-796.
- Miller, M., Mogun, H., Azrael, D., Hempstead, K., & Solomon, D. (2008). Cancer and the risk of suicide in older americans. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 26(29), 4720-4724.
- Miovic, M., & Block, S. (2007). Psychiatric disorders in advanced cancer. *Cancer*, 110(8), 1665-1676.
- Misono, S., Weiss, N., Fann, J., Redman, M., & Yueh, B. (2008). Incidence of suicide in persons with cancer. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 26(29), 4731-4738.
- Mitchell, A., Chan, M., Bhatti, H., Halton, M., Grassi, L., Johansen, C., & Meader, N. (2011). Prevalence of depression, anxiety, and adjustment disorder in oncological, haematological, and palliative-care settings: a meta-analysis of 94 interview-based studies. *Lancet Oncology*, 12(2), 160-174.
- Nasseri, K., Mills, P., Mirshahidi, H., & Moulton, L. (2012).

- Suicide in cancer patients in california, 1997-2006. *Archives of Suicide Research*, 16(4), 324-333.
- Nock, M., Hwang, I., Sampson, N., & Kessler, R. (2010). Mental disorders, comorbidity and suicidal behavior: Results from the national comorbidity survey replication. *Molecular Psychiatry*, 15(8), 868-876.
- OCDE. (2011). Health at a glance 2011. OCDE indicators. Recuperado el 25 de agosto de 2013 desde <http://www.oecd.org/els/health-systems/49105858.pdf>.
- OMS, Oficina Regional para Las Américas. (2014). Mortalidad por suicidio en las américas. Recuperado el 11 de Junio de 2015 desde http://www.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=10114%3Anew-paho-report-more-than-7-suicides-per-hour-in-the-americas&Itemid=1926&lang=es
- Panczak, R., Spoerri, A., Zwahlen, M., Bopp, M., Gutzwiller, F., & Egger, M. (2013). Religion and suicide in patients with mental illness or cancer. *Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior*, 43(2), 213-222.
- Passik, S., & Theobald, D. (2000). Managing addiction in advanced cancer patients: why bother?. *Journal of Pain and Symptom Manage*, 19(3), 229-234.
- Quill, T. (2008). Suicidal thoughts and actions in cancer patients: the time for exploration is now. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 26(29), 4705-4707.
- Rajmohan, V., & Kumar, S. (2013). Psychiatric morbidity, pain perception, and functional status of chronic pain patients in palliative care. *Indian Journal of Palliative Care*, 19(3), 146-151.
- Recklitis, C., Diller, L., Li, X., Najita, J., Robison, L., & Zeltzer, L. (2010). Suicide ideation in adult survivors of childhood cancer: a report from the childhood cancer survivor study. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 28(4), 655-661.
- Ríos Rísquez, M., Sánchez Meca, J., & Godoy Fernández, C. (2010). Personalidad resistente, autoeficacia y estado general de salud en profesionales de enfermería de cuidados intensivos y urgencias. *Psicothema*, 22(4), 600-605.

- Ríos Risquez, M., Godoy-Fernández, C., & Sánchez-Meca, J. (2011). Síndrome de quemarse por el trabajo, personalidad resistente y malestar psicológico en personal de enfermería. *Anales de Psicología*, 27(1), 71-79.
- Robson A., Scrutton F., Wilkinson L., & MacLeod, F. (2010). The risk of suicide in cancer patients: a review of the literature. *Psychooncology*, 19, 1250-1258.
- Rogero-García, J. (2010). *Los tiempos del cuidado: el impacto de la dependencia de los mayores en la vida cotidiana de sus cuidadores*. Madrid: Imsero.
- Saksvik-Lehouillier, I., Bjorvatn, B., Hetland, H., Sandal, Gro M., Moen, B., Mageroy, N., & Pallesen, S. (2012). Personality factors predicting changes in shift work tolerance: a longitudinal study among nurses working rotating shifts. *Work & Stress*, 26(2), 143-160.
- Sánchez-Herrero Arbide, S., Sánchez-López, M., & Aparicio-García, M. (2011). Salud, ansiedad y autoestima en mujeres de mediana edad cuidadoras y no cuidadoras. *Revista de Ansiedad y Estrés*, 17(1), 27-37.
- Sánchez-López, M., López-García, J., Dresch, V., & Corbalán, J. (2008). Sociodemographic, psychological and health-related factors associated with poor mental health in spanish women and men in midlife. *Women & Health*, 48(4), 445-465.
- Sánchez-López, M., Saavedra, A., Dresch, V., & Limiñana, R. (2014). Conformity to traditional gender norms in a feminized occupation: the influence on health behaviors. *Health*, 6(20), 2775-2789.
- Sánchez-López, M., Cuellar-Flores, I., & Dresch, V. (2012). The impact of gender roles on health. *Women & Health*, 52(2), 182-196.
- Sánchez-López, M., Rivas-Diez, R. & Cuéllar-Flores, I. (2013). Masculinity and femininity as predictors of tobacco and alcohol consumption in spanish university students. *Salud y Drogas*, 13(1), 15-22.
- Sánchez-López, M., Limiñana-Gras, R., Colodro-Conde, L., & Cuéllar-Flores, I. (2015). Use of the hospital anxiety and

- depression scale in spanish caregivers. *Scandinavian Journal of Caring Sciences*, 29(4), 751-759.
- Schneider, K., & Shenassa, E. (2008). Correlates of suicide ideation in a population-based sample of cancer patients. *Journal of Psychosocial Oncology*, 26(2), 49-62.
- Smailyte, G., Jasilionis, D., Kaceniene, A., Krilaviciute, A., Ambrozaitiene, D., & Stankuniene, V. (2013). Suicides among cancer patients in Lithuania: a population-based census-linked study. *Cancer Epidemiology*, 37(5), 714-718.
- Spencer, R., Ray, A., Pirl, W., & Prigerson, H. (2012). Clinical correlates of suicidal thoughts in patients with advanced cancer. *The American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry*, 20(4), 327-336.
- Spoletini, I., Gianni, W., Caltagirone, C., Madaio, R., Repetto, L., & Spalletta, G. (2011). Suicide and cancer: where do we go from here?. *Critical Reviews in Oncology/Hematology*, 78(3), 206-219.
- Sudak, H. (2005). Suicide. In B. Sadock, & C. Sadock, (Eds.), *Kaplan and Sadock's comprehensive textbook of psychiatry* (8th Ed.). Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams and Wilkins.
- Taylor, C., Munro, A., Glynne-Jones, R. Griffith, C., Trevatt, P., Michael Richards, M., & Ramirez, A. (2010). Multidisciplinary team working in cancer: what is the evidence?. *British Medical Journal*, 340, c951.
- Torre, L., Bray, F., Siegel, R., Ferlay, J., Lortet-Tieulent, J., & Jemal, A. (2015). Global cancer statistics, 2012. *CA: A Cancer Journal for Clinicians*, 65(2), 87-108.
- Turaga, K., Malafa, M., Jacobsen, P., Schell, M., & Sarr, M. (2011). Suicide in patients with pancreatic cancer. *Cancer*, 117(3), 642-647.
- Värnik, A., Kõlves, K., Allik, J., Arensman, E., Aromaa, E., Van Audenhove, C., & Hegerl, U. (2009). Gender issues in suicide rates, trends and methods among youths aged 15-24 in 15 european countries. *Journal of Affective Disorders*, 113(3), 216-226.
- Vyssoki, B., Gleiss, A., Rockett, I., Hackl, M., Leitner, B., Sonneck, G., & Kapusta, N. (2015). Suicide among 915,303

- austrian cancer patients: who is at risk?. *Journal of Affective Disorders*, 175, 287-291.
- Walker, J., Hansen, C., Martin, P., Symeonides, S., Ramessur, R., Murray, G., & Sharpe, M. (2014). Prevalence, associations, and adequacy of treatment of major depression in patients with cancer: a cross-sectional analysis of routinely collected clinical data. *The Lancet Psychiatry*, 1(5), 343-350.
- Walker, J., Waters, R., Murray, G., Swanson, H., Hibberd, C., Rush, R., Storey, D., Strong, V., Fallon, M., Wall, L., & Sharpe, M. (2008). Better off dead: suicidal thoughts in cancer patients. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 26, 4725-4730.
- Warmenhoven, F., Van Rijswijk, E., Van Weel, C., Prins, J., & Vissers, K. (2011). Low prevalence of depressive disorder in ambulatory advanced cancer patients using the schedules for clinical assessment in neuropsychiatry (SCAN 2.1). *Journal of Affective Disorders*, 136, 1209-1211.
- Weinberger, M., Bruce, M., Roth, A., & Nelson, C. (2011). Depression and barriers to mental health care in older cancer patients. *International Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry*, 26(1), 21-26.
- Yamauchi, T., Inagaki, M., Yonemoto, N., Iwasaki, M., Inoue, M., Akechi, T., & Tsugane, S. (2014). Death by suicide and other externally caused injuries following a cancer diagnosis: the Japan public health center-based prospective study. *Psycho-Oncology*, 23(9), 1034-1041.
- Yanguas Lezaun, J., Leturia Arrazola, M. & Leturia Arrazola, F. (2000). Apoyo informal y cuidado de las personas mayores dependientes. *Papeles del Psicólogo*, 76, 4, 23-32.
- Yousaf, U., Christensen, M., Engholm, G., & Storm, H. (2005). Suicides among danish cancer patients 1971-1999. *British Journal of Cancer*, 92(6), 995-1000.
- Zhou, E., Hu, J., Kantoff, P., & Recklitis, C. (2015). Identifying suicidal symptoms in prostate cancer survivors using brief self-report. *Journal of Cancer Survivorship*, 9(1), 59-67.